

Board of Trustees of the Williamsburg Regional Library

Minutes of Board Meeting January 22, 2020
Meeting Room 128, Stryker Center

Attending: Natalie Miller-Moore, Jean Stettler, Sally Andrews, Chris Gareis, Ted Hiller, Theresa Owens, Jason Purse, and Nicole Trifone;

Friends of WRL Foundation (FWRLF) President Sam Sadler; Library Director Elizabeth B. Fowler; library staff members Carrie Binsfeld, Benjamin Goldberg, Ben Strohm, Sandra Towers, Barry Trott, and Sarah App;

William & Mary Director of Training & Development Babs Bengtson;

Absent: Jim Axtell, Barry Marten, and Andrew Trivette.

Call to Order: Chair Miller-Moore called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Public Comment: None.

Mission Moment: None.

Consent Calendar: The January 22, 2020 consent calendar was approved as written.

Library Director's Report: Ms. Fowler introduced Ben Strohm, newly appointed Youth Services Director. Ms. Fowler stated the new website has been officially launched with the new logo being made official the first week in February. The new online payment system has been added to the library's website.

- **Action Item: FY 2021 Proposed Budget** - A final draft of the proposed budget for FY 2021, was presented to the board. Ms. Fowler reviewed various aspects of the budget. Pending approval, the proposed budget will be sent to the City of Williamsburg, James City County, and York County for consideration. Ms. Andrews moved to approve the budget as presented. Mr. Purse seconded; the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Fowler stated the Kiwanis Kids Idea Studio construction is ahead of schedule with a grand opening tentatively scheduled for March 21, 2020. Pre-opening tours will be scheduled in mid-February for board members and major donors. Ms. Fowler discussed the upcoming board field trip on February 3, 2020 to the Fairfield and Varina public libraries. Ms. Fowler updated the board on the makerspace programming in the Spring, James City County's involvement in the proposed playground, the new phone system, and the recently approved RFID system.

Friends of WRL Foundation Updates: Mr. Sadler stated the annual FWRLF report was presented at the January 21, 2020 FWRLF meeting, discussing the \$173,000 in grants awarded to the library from the FWRLF in 2019. Mr. Sadler discussed presenting the report and information on the Bisland Legacy Society at the February Board of Trustees meeting.

City of Williamsburg Update: None.

James City County Update: Mr. Purse stated James City County is currently working on the 2021 budget preparations.

York County Public Library Update: Ms. Owens stated York County is currently working on the 2021 budget preparations.

Chair's Report:

- **Committee Updates** – None.
- **Strategic Plan Discussion** – Ms. Miller-Moore introduced Babs Bengtson from the College of William and Mary.

The board and staff broke into groups to complete an exercise in brainstorming for the mission and vision statements for the strategic plan.

The exercise produced the following ideas:

Mission Statement

What resonates with you?

- Stakeholders
- Localities
- Community
- Regionalism
- Basic services for citizens
- The words - "value", "inform", "enrich", and "strengthen"
- The library makes us stronger and better
- Strengthens community
- Builds community spirit

What changes would you make?

- Revise "basic service", use "fundamental"
- Eliminate the second sentence
- Add verbs, possibly "connect", other than "enrich, inform, and strengthen"
- The library is for everyone, paid by everyone
- Affirm inclusiveness
- Add "residents and visitors", or "guests"
- Connects and strengthens
- Connects to community
- Needs to address the library's versatility as a space/place
- Information = power
- Add potential, vision, expanding, or growing
- Create and recreate
- More exciting
- Excellence
- Need to add something about civic participation and/or democracy
- Welcome
- Supports dialogue
- Safe place to learn
- An open door to information and ideas

Vision Statement

What inspires you?

- Community-focused
- "Community needs"
- Meeting needs is good
- We aspire to be responsive to expectations

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- Includes breadth of services
 - Includes excellent facilities
 - Services
 - Update facilities
 - Knowing that the library is not only about collections but also about programs, services, and facilities
 - Excellence is a good aspiration
 - Excellence in all we do
- What would you add or delete?
- Innovative
 - Transform
 - Re-create, make anew
 - Inspire
 - Push boundaries of what's possible
 - Center for transformation, creation, and innovation
 - Explore, engage, and enjoy
 - Excite and explore
 - Recreate, in the sense of relax
 - Emerging
 - Where inspiration, discovery, and dialog happen
 - Create
 - Construct
 - Make life better
 - Inclusive
 - Build social capital
 - Contribute to the good of the whole
 - Collaborate
 - Connect
 - Partners with the community
 - Socialize
 - Building connections
 - Volunteer opportunities
 - Will provide the resources, space, and expertise
 - Become center of the community, known safe space for all
 - Think, solve, inform, inquire
 - Staff has resources for their big ideas
 - Attract the best staff
 - Should aspire to exceed expectations and anticipate needs
 - Responsive
 - Opportunities
 - Trusted source/authority
 - Neutral, safe, connect
 - Everyone knows and loves the library
 - Other libraries look to us for ideas

Ms. Bengtson advised the board to revise the mission and vision statement at the same time. She also suggested making the statement aspirational but obtainable.

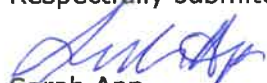
Ms. Miller-Moore thanked Ms. Bengtson for her instruction.

Other Business: None.

Adjournment: Ms. Miller-Moore moved to adjourn at 4:37 p.m. All agreed.

Approved as of 02/19/2020

Respectfully submitted,


Sarah App

Approved by Natalie Miller-Moore
Natalie Miller-Moore, Chair