

Board of Trustees of the Williamsburg Regional Library

Minutes of Board Meeting August 26, 2020

Virtual Meeting

Attending: Natalie Miller-Moore, Jean Stettler, Sally Andrews, Chris Gareis, Felicia Highland, Ted Hiller, Theresa Owens, Jason Purse, Nina Simone, and Andrew Trivette;

Friends of WRL Foundation (FWRLF) President Sam Sadler; Library Director Betsy Fowler; library staff members Benjamin Goldberg, Sandra Towers, Barry Trott, and Sarah App;

Absent: Nicole Trifone.

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

Public Comment: None.

Mission Moment: Ms. Simone complimented the library on the recent Learn at Home Summit program.

Consent Calendar: The August 26, 2020 consent calendar was approved as written.

Chair's Report: Ms. Miller-Moore introduced and welcomed the board's two new members, Felicia Highland and Nina Simone representing James City County and the City of Williamsburg respectively. Ms. Highland and Ms. Simone each gave a brief introduction of themselves.

- **Committee Updates** – Ms. Miller-Moore discussed vacancies on various committees. Ms. Miller-Moore announced the Strategic Plan Committee met on August 11, 2020 and will have a draft plan for the Board of Trustees to review soon. Ms. Miller-Moore thanked Mr. Gareis for the work he and the Onboarding Committee did creating the FAQ document for new members.

Library Director's Report: Ms. Fowler welcomed the new members of the board and expressed her appreciation for the work the board does to support the library and its staff. Ms. Fowler updated the board on the COVID-19 state-mandated standards. James City County (JCC) will report any illnesses within the library as well as provide staff training. Ms. Fowler updated the board on various topics including the continued response to reopening, the upgrades in the library facilities, review of the current statistical information, and staff scheduling to promote social distancing. Ms. Fowler discussed the recent Learn at Home Summit and thanked the Friends of Williamsburg Regional Library Foundation (FWRLF) for funding the purchase of new recording equipment to support virtual programming. Ms. Fowler announced the library has implemented a three and older age rule for mask use. To encourage families to read at home preschool books the library staff is launching a new program to encourage preschool reading entitled 1000 Books Before Kindergarten. Ms. Fowler discussed the upcoming art exhibit at the Stryker Center which is a partnership between the library, William & Mary, the Muscarelle, and CultureFix. Ms. Fowler updated the board on the ALA grant to the library to help reach community members who have not responded to the Census. The MLS division has been visiting neighborhoods and postcards were sent to low response areas.

Ms. Miller-Moore thanked Ms. Fowler and the library staff for their work being proactive and creating such a detailed plan in case of illness in the library.

Approved as of 9/23/2020

Friends of WRL Foundation Updates: Mr. Sadler discussed working with the library to allow it the flexibility it needs during the pandemic. The impact of the pandemic on fundraising has not yet been determined. Mr. Sadler discussed the hot spot program and the success it has had, with the program being picked up by other libraries.

City of Williamsburg Update: Mr. Trivette discussed the City of Williamsburg's work on the CARES act funding.

Ms. Fowler announced Ms. Binsfeld is working on COVID-19 library expenses and a request for reimbursements out of CARES Act Funds to the funding jurisdictions.

James City County Update: Mr. Purse thanked Ms. Fowler for her help with the COVID-19 state mandated reporting standards.

York County Public Library Update: Ms. Owens stated York County is also working on the CARES act funding to go to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Sadler thanked all the jurisdictions for their continued support for the library.

Other Business: None.

Adjournment: Ms. Miller-Moore moved to adjourn at 3:51 p.m. All agreed.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah App

Approved by _____
Natalie Miller-Moore, Chair