

**JEFFERSON PARISH LIBRARY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING**

**VIRTUAL**

**October 19, 2021  
MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Lisa Conescu, Patricia Cox, Charles Gaudin, Becky Knight, James Simmons, and Margaret Thompson

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Judy Mills

**LIBRARY STAFF PRESENT:** Marylyn Haddican, Irene Lunkin, and Antoinette Scott

**OTHER PARISH STAFF:** Leighton Ciravolo, Parish Attorney for Library

Margaret called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Cox/Knight made a motion to dispense with the reading of the August minutes and accept them as written. Motion carried.

**Director's Report:**

- The Lafitte library is currently open Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Starting Monday, October 25, all libraries will be open regular hours with the exception of Grand Isle Library. Hurricane Ida caused roof damages that caused water to enter the building. Mold is growing in the building, furniture is damaged, and the elevator is stuck with mud and sand.
- Kudos to our maintenance department who stayed here during the hurricane. They went out and checked all of the buildings after the hurricane, Lafitte and Grand Isle too. They had to cover the roof at Grand Isle. Although Grand Isle Library is closed, the library staff received emergency leave, but are now using their personal leave. Parish Administration is working on housing for citizens of Grand Isle.
- Parish Administration asked each department to create a list of staff that are vaccinated. Currently 96% of the Library staff are vaccinated.
- Library visits with frontline staff are complete, the last visit was to Belle Terre library last week. Visits with Library administrative staff will begin this week.
- Entergy and Atmos Energy will require East Bank Regional library to close two days for them to perform the necessary work to connect the generator. We will close on a Saturday and Sunday, when less staff are present. The roof project at East Bank Regional library has started.
- The EBR Children's department is now doing outdoor programming. They are hosting events in the courtyards and in Lafreniere Park. They plan to resume with normal indoor programming when the younger children are able to receive the COVID vaccine.

- Renovations at Westwego library are progressing. We are still waiting on the finalized plans for the West Bank Regional project.

### **New Business**

Patricia mentioned Della Gaudet, who is deceased, was a longtime employee of the Grand Isle Library. She was not a Librarian, but trained every employee that worked at Grand Isle Library. A letter was written ten years ago, proposing to rename the Grand Isle library after Della Gaudet, but the proposal was denied. Earlier this year, Councilman Lee changed Ordinance #26152 regarding naming of Library facilities. Now that the ordinance is changed, Patricia asked if the Library Board would write a letter of support to recommend the Grand Isle Library be renamed Della Gaudet Grand Isle Library.

Conescu/Knight made a motion that the board write a letter to the Council to support the name change of Grand Isle Library to Della Gaudet Grand Isle Library. Motion carried. All in favor.

James offered to help Patricia with the process. Patricia and Margaret will communicate with other after the meeting on this task.

Board members were reminded to complete their mandatory trainings.

The meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.