

**JEFFERSON PARISH LIBRARY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

VIRTUAL

**March 15, 2022
MINUTES**

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

LIBRARY STAFF PRESENT: Irene Lunkin, Melissa Muhoberac and Antoinette Scott

OTHER PARISH STAFF: Leighton Ciravolo, Parish Attorney for Library and Cherreen Gegenheimer, CAA

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

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

Director's Report:

- Adult Programming Manager Chris Smith reported the library has formed an Outreach Committee which he is a part of. The committee recently met to discuss goals and objectives for this year which includes promoting the Library on radio stations and continuing with bus advertisements. He mentioned the library has funds budgeted for this. Upcoming programs include: College Night that will be held Thursday nights in May at the Old Metairie Library and virtual at WBR, Terrytown and North Kenner libraries; 14 Genealogy sessions presented by Gwen Kelley; and an African American Genealogy program at WBR. He will continue to promote these programs by email blasts and via the PIO.
- Marylyn recently retired with 40 years of service. She is missed by staff. Selena will continue in her current position as Assistant Director filling in as needed with day-to-day operations while Parish CAA Cherreen Gegenheimer handle higher-level operations. An Interim Director has not been appointed. Judy asked Cherreen if the Library Board would be able to give input in regards to the selection of a new Library Director. Cherreen informed her the Parish President has not started advertising the position yet. She is willing to accept recommendations from board for candidates, but the final selection will be up to the Parish President, as that person will serve at the will of the Parish President. She also mentioned they have reached out to the State Librarian who will assist with advertising the position when they are ready to pursue with the search. Margaret mentioned the board would like to be involved and review resumes from the candidates to give a different perspective and not to obstruct the hiring process.
- The new website is near completion. It will likely go live next Wednesday.
- The zigzag shelving units at Lafitte and Wagner libraries were recently replaced with straight edge shelves. Additional shelving units will be need for Wagner for their DVD collection.

- The Emergency Rental Assistance Program will continue through next year. They have agreed to consolidate to one room at EBR. We plan to install sound panels between the rooms by July 2022. Once the panels are in place, we will be able to resume renting the other side of the room to organizations and use it for programming events.

Judy reported she spoke with an Archivist who may be able to assess the Mary Curry collection, but she won't be able to do it until next year.

James reported there is no movement on the Avondale eBranch project.

Margaret reported board meetings will resume to in-person meetings next month. James mentioned his work schedule conflicts with the meeting times. He and Margaret will speak after the meeting.

The Friends Big Book Sale is March 18-20 at the Pontchartrain Center in Kenner.

The meeting adjourned at 4:41 p.m.