

**Ashe County Public Library Advisory Board  
Community Room  
March 13, 2023**

Present: Kim Barnes, Dr. Doug Butler (Zoom), Lisa Calhoun, JoAnn Crawley, Kyle Hall, Steve Katz, Jan Noffsinger, Karen Moll

Present for the library: Tammy Holston, Laura McPherson

Absent: None

Guests: James Bumgarner, Dawn Johnson

**Call to order:** Chair Dr. Doug Butler called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. He welcomed all including guests, James Bumgarner and Dawn Johnson who may be interested in serving on this advisory committee.

**Additions, deletions, and approval of agenda:** Doug asked that we move new and unfinished business ahead of committee reports. Karen Moll made a motion to approve the agenda changes and Kyle Hall seconded; motion passed unanimously

**Approval of previous meeting's minutes:** Removal of the three question marks under #4. Jan Noffsinger moved that the amended minutes as emailed be approved. Lisa Calhoun seconded; motion passed unanimously.

**Correspondence and communications:** Laura McPherson shared a fourth grade student's comments about a recent library program about groundhogs. The student's mother/teacher said he loved this event and was grateful that the library hosted this program.

**Unfinished business:**

**Report of the ARL Search Committee:** The full regional board met with the candidate from Forsyth County. The board decided to put off its decision until other candidates have been interviewed. The search committee meets again Thursday, March 16, prior to the full regional board meeting. Doug stated that we appreciate all of Tammy's good work as interim director.

**Skyline donation:** The Skyline board would need to vote on the amount requested. Kyle talked with two of Skyline's board members but the board has not met on our request. As of March 7, there was no word about this donation.

**New business:**

**FY 2022-2023 Budget Amendments:** Reviewed by Tammy who stated that bank fees have increased. The regional board is working on the ARL budget to present to the three county commissioners' boards. Marsh money and the NCCF endowment were also reviewed.

**Accepting applications for local board members:**

Update on board member terms for Kyle, Jan, Kim, and Doug. JoAnn's first term and Steve's second term will expire in August 2023. Number of those on the board can be between 5 and 12.

**Next Regional Board meeting:** March 16, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. in Wilkes

**Next Local Board meeting:** May 8, 2023, at noon.

**Reports of standing committees:**

**Endowment:** Kyle suggested board members could help pay for ads, giving what they can, for initial seed money for the bank account and also for publicity. The question came up that the FOL could loan initial funds for the endowment, then the endowment could pay the FOL back from the endowment checking account. An endowment campaign kickoff was discussed with a possible open house. Additional

ways of fundraising could include a donation box for the Endowment that could be placed at the desk and at events as well as possible fundraisers at restaurants. Further discussion will be held at the next ACPL board meeting.

**Building Enhancement:** Jan asked about the availability of the artist who had agreed to paint the mural. Laura stated the artist is ready to start the mural when given the okay. The hold-up currently is that we need to get the infrastructure updated before she can paint the mural beginning with moisture issues. Various grant and other options for infrastructure repairs/updates were discussed and will be investigated. Other options would be to contact the Cannon Foundation; beautification grant from Lowe's; Blue Ridge Electrical and additional Covid funds. She and Kyle suggested that we correspond with NC Representative Ray Pickett and Senator Ralph Hise for support of our Endowment Campaign as well as contacting County Commissioner Todd McNeill and County Manager Adam Stumb – Municipal ARPA funding outstanding: USDA Rural Development may have other funding opportunities available.

**Other reports:**

**Report of the Friends of the Library President:** See attached.

**Report of the Regional Director:** See attached. Tammy is researching the cost for upgrading faster internet service.

**Report of the County Librarian:** See attached. The Ashe County Park's storywalk has sustained some damage and those will need to be replaced.

**Other comments:** Kyle requested the library purchase a subscription for the *New Yorker* magazine when the digital magazines are no longer available

**Adjournment:** Karen made a motion to adjourn, Kyle seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Moll  
Secretary