

**THE CATAWBA COUNTY LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**Minutes of May 27, 2015**

The Catawba County Library Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, May 27, 2015, 12 Noon, in the auditorium of the Main Library in Newton.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Brenda Sigmon, Mary Bess Lawing, Kevin Moretz, Amy Smith, Susan Hunsucker, Patricia Gibson, and Suzanne White, Library Director

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Amanda Edwards

**ALSO PRESENT**

Members of the Catawba County Leadership Team: Amy McDonald, April Green, Dawn Hughey, Karyn Yaussy; and Siobhan Loendorf, Assistant Library Director

**CALL TO ORDER**

Amy Smith, Chairman, called the meeting to order.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the previous meeting, February 10, 2015 were approved as written. Amy Smith made the motion to approve the minutes as submitted; motion carried unanimously.

**IV. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**A. Main Library Refresh**

- Extensive rewiring and painting completed
- In the works on furnishings, Carol Hall with Jenkins Peer is advising on furnishings
- Lots of early literacy interatives

**B. Maiden Library Refresh**

- New carpet
- New shelving (also new carpet at St. Stephens, and new paint, carpet, shelving at Claremont)

**C. Staffing Update**

- Hired library assistants and hourly staff
- Upgrade of a position to provide Spanish speaking outreach
- Hired a Community Engagement Specialist, Patricia Oliver
- Diane Jennings retired; Regina Reitzel promoted to Collection Development position.

- Reference position vacated by Regina Reitzel being restructured to include increased programming

**D. Community Garden Update**

- Catawba County Leadership Academy adopted the Reading Garden as their project
- Leveraged BB&T to donate \$3,000 and their time
- June 2, 8 am to 12 noon and June 4 , 1 pm to 5 pm are scheduled work days
- BB&T team coming out to help with the project
- Grand opening/ribbon cutting celebration scheduled for July 22 at 10:00 am
- Motion was made to write letters or ask Seth about advertising all the library is doing. Motion passed unanimously.

**E. Strategic Planning Process**

- Included input from over 1500 people through surveys, focus groups, public forums, interviews
- Many revisions as surveys, focus groups, forums, and interview results were analyzed; and repeat input gathered based on initial draft
- Two biggest topics: 1) focus on community engagement and outreach, 2) empowering community with technology, 3) making sure our facilities are welcoming
- Results of the survey indicate that people young and older alike still appreciate books/print
- Work sessions with steering committee and staff to develop vision, mission, and goals
- It is important to understand that many items in strategic plan are contingent on funding and leveraging partnerships

Mary Bess Lawing made a motion to approve the strategic plan; Brenda Sigmon seconded; motion passed unanimously. The strategic plan will be presented to the county sub-committee on June 8. After approval from the sub-committee, it will be presented to the Board of Commissioners for approval on June 15 at 7 pm. Suzanne invited library board members to attend.

**F. BIG Read**

- A collaborative community partnership between Catawba County Library, Catawba County schools, Green Room, Catawba Valley Community College, Lenoir-Rhyne University, and Hickory Public Library to read and provide programming centered around Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird".

**G. Grants**

- LSTA Access and Digitization - RFID Project: continuation to Maiden, Conover, Claremont, Southwest branches
- LSTA Literacy and Lifelong Learning - Tech Connect: a tech space for cutting edge technology including a 3D printer, digital cutting machine, new computers, GoPro cameras, etc.

- NEA - \$11,800 – Big Read ‘To Kill a Mockingbird’
- UAC - \$ 5,000 – Big Read to purchase extra copies of ‘To Kill a Mockingbird’
- Possible collaboration contact with school for the TechConnect space might be Mark Story at Catawba County Schools, Director of CTE at Bunker Hill and Bandy’s

**V. Other Business**

- Summer Reading Program – Bookmark contest for kids and adults was suggested
- Suzanne recognized Amy Smith as she steps down from the Library Board. She presented her with a gift and thanked her for her years of service, time and dedication.
- It was noted that Suzanne was appointed to the State Library Commission.
- Suzanne shared the news that the House of Representatives has added a line item to the budget that would provide 10 million in non-recurring competitive grant funds for 2015/16. This proposal is tentative—in order to be successful, it would need to make it through the Senate and final budget approval.

**VI. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Next regular scheduled Library Board Meeting: Tuesday, August 11, 2015, Newton Library

Respectfully submitted,  
Siobhan Loendorf, Assistant Library Director