

**CATAWBA COUNTY LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**Minutes of August 14, 2018**

The Catawba County Library Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, August 14, 2018, 12 Noon, in the Conference Room of the Main Library in Newton.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Susan Hunsucker, Kevin Moretz, Nicky Setzer, Carol Preston, Sylvia Ray and Suzanne White, Library Director.

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Brenda Sigmon, Amanda Edwards

**CALL TO ORDER**

Susan Hunsucker, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No members of the public attended.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Staffing Update**

Conover/Claremont Branch Librarian-Stephanie Abbott

Southwest Branch Library- Touger Vang resigned, April Green transferred to Southwest

Pop Up Librarian- Interview begin next week

Sherrills Ford Librarian- Melissa Housel received a YALSA Grant to attend YA Symposium Intern through ALA- Jayson Sanchez-working on homework helper's enhancement

**Programming Update**

**Arts @ the Library-** As a new showcase for the arts, the Library has developed partnerships with local artists and arts organizations to provide meaningful arts experiences and hands-on arts training—with the goal of working collaboratively to increase access to the arts and, ultimately, to empower local artists and build vibrant communities that enhance quality of life.

At the opening reception, the first of many exhibits featured work from local artists as well as work shared from the Hickory Museum of Art. The Library's [Art-o-Mat](#) – a refurbished cigarette vending machine that sells small items of art for \$5 each – was also premiered. Local artists learned how to submit their own works for consideration in Art-o-Mat's international network of contributing artists to enhance their personal exposure and visibility, and bolster their ability to make art and to make a living –critical to vibrant and healthy communities. Also arts demonstration, origami with local artist. Future workshops will continue to encourage and assist local artists in honing their arts, promotion, and business skills.

Supporting this initiative are the United Arts Council of Catawba County, the Hickory Museum of Art, and the Catawba County Friends of the Library. The next exhibit will feature a folk art collection on loan from the Hickory Museum of art, and will also help promote the Folk Art Festival in Newton.

**Summer Learning-** Summer Learning has successfully ended and we're looking forward to a summer learning celebration. The Library System had 1,300 children, 200 teens and 300 adults registered for summer learning, and a total of 3,000 individuals that attended summer learning programs.

**Healthy Living-** The Library is partnering with Public Health, Live Well Catawba, and Catawba Valley Medical Center to expand access to health information, resources, and opportunities, contributing to a vision for a "healthier community and enhanced quality of life". Library programming and resources center around healthy eating, active living, and preventing chronic disease, offered in collaboration with community health partners--to create and support a culture of wellness. Health information resources are available 24/7 online, and programs like Yoga, Zumba, and chair dancing, also bilingual, are offered to make exercise a regular and fun part of people's routines. Programs on making small but important changes to the way we eat have been popular-- interesting salads, smoothies, and partnering with Cooperative Extension for a "Get Med Instead of Meds" series. The goal of the collaboration is to support making the healthy choice the easy choice across the community.

**Business Networking-** Starting in August (August 22 from 4-6 pm) the Conover Branch Library will be hosting a Business Networking program, giving an opportunity for local business to meet, share ideas and resources, and discuss plans.

### **Library in the Community**

In our ongoing outreach efforts, the Library will be in the community at several upcoming events. The Library will have a tent at the Old Soldiers Festival in August and at the Folk Art Festival on October 6. The Library will attend and present at Connect Catawba's *Supporting Education* Resource Forum on September 11, and share information at Centro Latino's Health and Wellness Fair on September 30.

### **Friends of the Library**

The Friends of the Library just finished with their annual book sale and made \$4,400.00 from the sale.

### **Budget**

Board members were given a brochure that explains some key points in the County's budget and shows where the library's budget fits into the overall budget picture.

### **Advocacy**

Board members were given a library advocacy resource sheet with contact information, with a request for library board members to contact NC legislators to advocate for the NC Kids Digital Library. Additional advocacy is needed on the federal level as well to continue federal LSTA funding.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Next Regular Scheduled Library Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 13, 2018, Newton Library.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tyler Garrison