



Library Board of Trustees
Library Board of Trustees Meeting
Pineville Library, 505 Main Street, Suite 100
Monday, March 20, 2023, 4:00pm – 6:30pm

Trustees Present

Ailen Arreaza
Peggy Brookhouse
Dr. Kimmerly Martin
Tracy Montross
Dr. Amy Hawn Nelson
Preethi Srinivasan
Charles Thomas
Dr. Ricky Woods

Absent

Stacey Brown
Jon Buchan
Joe Helweg, Chair

Staff Present

Karen Beach
Shelley Book
David Dillard
Michael Engelbrecht
Harold Escalante
Jenni Gaisbauer
Caitlin Moen
Angie Myers
Emery Ortiz
Garrett Smith
Marcellus Turner
Martha Yesowitch

Others Present

Gene Cochrane
Mark Kutny
Gloria Kelley

Charles Thomas opened and welcomed everyone to the Board Meeting at 4:00pm. Mr. Thomas introduced branch manager, Garrett Smith and Ms. Smith gave the Trustees an overview of the new Pineville Branch and its offerings and stats. She also offered to tour the Trustees at the end of the meeting.

Absence with Cause

Mr. Thomas requested a motion to approve absence with cause for Joe Helweg, Jon Buchan and Stacey Brown. On a motion by Dr. Kimmerly Martin and seconded by Dr. Ricky Woods, the Trustees unanimously approved her absence with cause.

Minutes

Mr. Thomas requested a motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting held on March 20, 2023, and on a motion by Tracy Montross and seconded by Peggy Brookhouse, the Trustees unanimously approved the March 20, 2023, meeting minutes.

Chair Update

Charles Thomas provided the following updates:

- The passing of Parks Helms, a longtime Mecklenburg County democratic politician, was announced
- The resolution for Gloria Kelley was read:

WHEREAS, Gloria Kelley has accumulated a long legacy of service to the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library, having served thirteen years as the Board’s longest serving Trustee beginning in 2011 and ending in 2023; and

WHEREAS, Gloria has served faithfully the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library in addition to her most important job as Gigi to her 2 grandsons; and

WHEREAS, Gloria is a kind and compassionate person who cares deeply for the library, the library staff and the community;

WHEREAS, Gloria lends her extensive library knowledge to the Board of Trustees: and

WHEREAS, Gloria has never shied away from asking the hard questions and challenging group think; and

WHEREAS, Gloria’s love of gardening has helped grow young minds for decades all over the Charlotte community: and

WHEREAS, Gloria’s knowledge, sense of humor and dedication will be greatly missed by all who have worked with her over the last 13 years;

WHEREAS, Gloria’s style and grace on the dance floor is a delight for all to see: and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library Board and staff thank Gloria Kelly for her many contributions as trustee to the success, achievements and reputation of the Library, and wish her well in her future endeavors.

- Board Meetings and Retreat
 - The spring, board retreat has been replaced with in-person, extended board meetings due to the inability to secure a date that worked for most trustees and staff.
 - The next 3 board meetings will be held in-person at Allegra Westbrooks Regional Library, North County Library and Plaza Midwood Library.
 - An hour has been added to each meeting to make up for the retreat
 - Topics for the meetings will include intellectual freedom in May, strategic direction in June and advocacy at the board retreat in August.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Angie Myers presented the following Budget Adjustments:

FY2023 Budget Adjustments					
Budget Adjustment Number	FY2023 or Multi-Year	Short Description	Budget Category	Revenue Budget Adjustment Amount	Expenditure Budget Adjustment Amount
230301	FY2023	Charlotte Journalism Collaborative/Knight Media Forum Support	Revenue: Other	1,400	
230301	FY2023	Charlotte Journalism Collaborative/Knight Media Forum Support	Expenditure: Personnel Related		1,400
Total FY2023 Budget Adjustments				1,400	1,400
Multi-Year Budget Adjustments					
Budget Adjustment Number	FY2023 or Multi-Year	Short Description	Budget Category	Revenue Budget Adjustment Amount	Expenditure Budget Adjustment Amount
230302	Multi-Year	Branch Gift Contributions	Revenue: Foundation Contribution	7,845	
230302	Multi-Year	Staff Org Contributions	Revenue: Other	3,268	
230302	Multi-Year	Branch Gifts & Staff Org	Expenditure: Misc. General Operating		11,113
230303	Multi-Year	ULC Barbershop Books Program	Revenue: Other	10,000	
230303	Multi-Year	ULC Barbershop Books Program	Expenditure: Programming		10,000
230304	Multi-Year	Bolster Fund - Cornelius Branch	Revenue: Foundation Contribution	1,900	
230304	Multi-Year	Bolster Fund - Cornelius Branch	Expenditure: Library Collections		1,900
230305	Multi-Year	Flight Fund Grants	Revenue: Foundation Contribution	50	
230305	Multi-Year	Flight Fund Grants	Expenditure: Programming		50
Total Multi-Year Budget Adjustments				23,063	23,063
Grand Total Budget Adjustments				24,463	24,463

After some discussion and on a motion by the Finance Committee, the Trustees unanimously approved the budget transfers listed above.

Audit Update

The Library is currently in the 5th year of a 5 year contract with Cherry Beakert. They will perform the FY 2023 financial audit. The Library will be part of Mecklenburg County's RFP process for selecting the next accounting firm to go to contract with.

Library CEO Report

Marcellus Turner provided the following updates:

- Carnegie Circle will be at ImaginOn on Monday, March 27:
- The county manager's budget retreat went smoothly and there were no surprises. May 18th the County Manager will announce her recommended budget. May 24th there will be a public hearing where the Library will sign up to speak in support of the recommended budget and June 8th the Board of County Commissioners votes on the budget.
- Trustee update on board request for HR positions requested at the County Manager's Budget Retreat.
- Update on practices around challenges to intellectual freedom

Media- If a reporter approaches you, the following points are appropriate to use.

- The Library's goal is to provide a comprehensive collection of print, non-print and electronic materials to meet the informational, educational, recreational and cultural needs of **all** citizens of Mecklenburg County.
- The Library provides materials that represent freedom of expression and widely diverse views.
- The presence of an item in the Library does not indicate any endorsement of its content by the Library but supports the CML's efforts to provide access to an array of materials and resources that our customers use for their personal learning.
- The Library's materials selection policy is at cmlibrary.org.

You do not have to give an interview or statements to the media. In fact, CML's Marketing & Communications team would prefer that you limit your response to the points above and conclude your time with the reporter by saying the following:

- These are good questions. I'd like to connect you with the Library's communications team. They can provide you with more in-depth information.
- Give the reporter the Chief Marketing Officer's contact information
 - Krystal Green
 - kgreen@cmlibrary.org

Casual Conversations- Sometimes questions come up in casual conversation with friends, family and/or colleagues. The talking points above are still appropriate to use. You can also add:

- The Library strongly urges all customers to select materials for you and your own families that you deem appropriate.
 - All Library customers have a right to voice concerns about Library books and programs.
 - If you find something you are concerned about, talk with the branch manager.
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- Use of CML Library Email Accounts

- This month you have received email communications to both your personal and library email accounts. Next month, April, you will receive an email to your personal account asking you to check your library account for a message. Please ensure you have access to your CML accounts and if you need assistance please reach out to Shelley Book. In May, emails to board members will go to your CML accounts only.
- Service Awards Breakfast will be held on Thursday, March 30th from 9:00am-10:00am at the South County Library. Please plan to attend if it works with your schedule.

Library Director

- Story of Impact- Story of impact was postponed due to time constraints.

Library Foundation

- Campaign Update
 - Our first Whistle Stop will be held at Honeywell on April 4 and the branch tour will begin on May 4 at North County Regional Library. If you are in the area of any of the whistlestops, please stop in and support the campaign.

AROUND THE WORLD IN 21 BRANCHES

SPONSORED BY **LOWE'S**

The "World" Tour
From 11 am - 2 pm at...

North County Regional	May 6, 2023
University City Regional	June 17, 2023
Hickory Grove	July 15, 2023
Mint Hill	September 16, 2023
Matthews	October 14, 2023
Independence Regional	December 2, 2023

Then in 2024... Sugar Creek, Plaza Midwood, Allegra Westbrooks Regional, ImagineOn, Myers Park, SouthPark Regional, South County Regional, Pinville and Steele Creek. And in 2025... South Boulevard, West Boulevard, Mountain Island, Cornelius and Davidson.
Dates subject to change.

WHISTLE STOP whistle-stop noun (bwe-sal-stop) a small station at which trains stop only on signal; a small community

The Whistle Stop: Off the beaten path of our "World" tour of branches

Whistle Stops are a chance to gather with friends, neighbors and colleagues in a relaxed setting (at home, a coffee shop, brewery, or even work) for an in-depth look at how the CommonSpark amplifies the impact of the Library on our lives and community.

The Library Foundation will help you plan your Whistle Stop — from invitations and catering lists to program materials and guest swag. And of course, we will be on hand at your event as the campaign and content experts.

To learn more, give us a signal at 704.416.0801 to get your Whistle Stop on the map.

We are circumnavigating Mecklenburg County, touching down at each and every Library location along the way.

Inspired by the Jules Verne's novel and generously sponsored by Lowe's, the Library Foundation is bringing the CommonSpark to your neighborhood branch.

While we're there we'll celebrate what makes your local Library unique — casting a well-deserved spotlight on each location as an authentic reflection and enthusiastic advocate of the community that surrounds it.

Held on a Saturday from 11 am to 2 pm at the festival you can...

- Experience your new Main Library through dazzling **Virtual Reality** worlds created especially for our Library patrons
- Decode and decipher clever clues on **scavenger hunts** and uncover hidden Library treasures
- Meet local, award-winning wordsmiths with intimate **author talks** and book signings
- Dig into **DIY projects** featuring Lowe's on-site supplies and instruction in Library MakerSpaces
- Screen print your own t-shirt, tote bag, poster and more at our Souvenir Workshop
- Tap into your inner Picasso (or Bearden) and help **create a mural**, guided by local artists and inspired by community color
- Get a chance to chat about all things Library with our CEO Marcellus 'MT' Turner
- Collect stamps and stickers in your passport to **win amazing prizes** from our sponsors including Lowe's
- Make your CommonSpark campaign gift and **pose** with a BIG check

Pick up your free passport at an Around the World festival or at any branch starting May 6 and discover the infinite value of the Library.

...plus not-to-be-missed discovery stations, photo booths, Insta-spots, food trucks, music, swag and fun giveaways. And meet other Library lovers just like you!

THANK YOU TO **Principal Foundation** for their **\$500,000 challenge** to all donors on the first leg of the tour.

- Library Giving Day is April 4th and our goal on this one-day fundraising event is to encourage people who depend on and enjoy Charlotte Mecklenburg Library to donate, from large to small and everything in-between. As an extra incentive, every dollar raised on Library Giving Day will be matched by the Jesse Lutz Gregory family from now until April 4, dollar-for-dollar up to \$10,000.

- The Library Foundation will be hosting a planned giving program on Tuesday, April 4 from 12pm to 1pm titled “Your life in black & white” where you will join *New York Times* bestselling author and obituary writer, Gavin Edwards and literally write your own legacy.
- Carnegie Circle is scheduled for Monday March 27 at ImaginOn and with author NoViolet Bulawayo

At 5:30pm, Charles Thomas adjourned the board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcellus Turner
CEO