

Friends of the Summerville Library (FOSL)
Tuesday November 12, 2019

The monthly meeting of Friends of the Summerville Library met Tuesday November 12, 2019. From 6:30 until 7:00PM, members celebrated passage of a \$30M referendum for libraries that passed last week. At 7:00PM, Library Director Robert Antill and Trustee Chairman Bill Collins spoke to the membership and answered questions about next steps for building new libraries in Ridgeville, N. Charleston and Summerville. Becky Westfall called the business meeting to order at 7:45PM.

In Attendance:

Bill Collins, Chairman of the Library Trustees
Robert Antill, DCL Director
Becky Westfall, President
Mevelyn Williams, Vice President
Beverly Brockman, Secretary
Anne Gleason, Treasurer
Ellen Hyatt, Member-At-Large
Kathy Marrah, Member-At-Large
Cathy Coffey-Book Sale Committee Chair
Sandra Baden-Events Committee Chair
Kevin Carroll-Advocacy Committee Chair
Autumn Reid-PR/Publicity Committee Chair
Nancy Nicodemus-Past President
Carol Brummett-Past President
Rebecca Moore-Member
Louise Carroll-Member
Harriett Little-Member
Kathy Gates-Member
Bill Westfall-Member

Welcome and Introductions (Westfall)

Approval of the previous meeting (OCT) minutes (Brockman)

Motion made to accept minutes as written by Harriett Little and seconded by Kevin Carroll.

President's Report (Westfall)

WOO HOO!!! What a victory for libraries at the polls last week! Huge kudos to the voters! A huge win for everyone in Dorchester County!

It is gratifying to know we live among people who recognize the value of having libraries that are accessible to all areas of Dorchester County. Many individuals, groups, and county leaders supported this effort, and we were privileged to be one of those groups! What fun to participate and to share in the glow of this win!

The first item in our FOSL Mission Statement is: "Increasing public awareness of, focusing attention on, and expanding the use of the Library as a valuable resource for an informed community." Even though the big push of an election is behind us, our intention is to continue to carry out this mission statement. To that end, the FOSL Board recommends adding an ongoing Advocacy Committee to our organization. Thank you to Kevin Carroll for agreeing to lead, and Donna Underwood for agreeing to

serve on our Advocacy Committee. Please speak with one of them, or contact me, if you would like to be a part of the Advocacy Committee.

We can use additional members on our other committees, too (Book Sale, Membership, PR/Publicity, and Events). If you have any interest in serving on one of these committees, please let it be known. You will be welcome!

Vice President's Report on Membership (Williams and Westfall)

We currently have 175 members. Williams reported updating the membership forms and leaving additional copies at the library.

Treasurer's Report (Gleason)

Motion to extend 2019 budget framework (assume no changes in the 2020 budget) until our General Meeting on 2/11/2020. There has been a delay in convening the 2020 Budget Committee, so we would like to present the proposed 2020 budget to the membership on 1/14/2020 to be voted on 2/11/2020. Gleason also reported that a deposit had been made to Grace Lutheran Church to support the June 14, 2020 Mary Alice Monroe event.

Greening of the Library (Gleason)

Anne has done some shopping, hoping to replace our previous poinsettias, which we had used for a number of years to decorate the Library for the Holidays. She showed us samples and after discussion, one style was selected, and a motion was submitted by Carol Brummett and seconded by Autumn Reid to purchase 12 of the new style poinsettias at a cost of \$10 each. All members supported this selection. You are invited to join Gail Masocco and her team in the Westvaco Room on Thursday morning, 12/12/2019 from 9:30AM until noon to help decorate the library for the holidays.

PR/Publicity Committee Report (Autumn Reid)

Established G Suite accounts for all board members to save, store, and share documents. Will facilitate and assist board members with setting up folders for sharing documents.

Articles and advocacy were posted on our website and FB page for the referendum. Received positive feedback and many shares on Facebook throughout. Overall, great response.

Will be working on online payments for membership as part of quarter items to complete.

Events Committee Report (Baden)

June 14, 2020, Mary Alice Monroe, Author Tea at Grace Lutheran Church on release of her new book, *On Ocean Boulevard*. Author is confirmed through publicist; contract is signed for use of Grace Lutheran Church; deposit has been sent to the church.

Questions: Will the library staff be available to sell the tickets during business hours? Robert Antill said yes. Can we also set up on-line ticketing access? Autumn Reid indicated she could set up online ticket purchases through EventBrite.

Book Talk and Signing for Susan Zurenda, *Bells for Eli*, to be held at the library in May. May 17th and May 24th are available. The latter date is Memorial Day weekend and will be out of town for the earlier date. Sandra asked if someone could stand in for her as it was determined during the meeting's discussion that the 17th would be a better date. Carole Brummett and Ellen Hyatt assured her that they

along with others would be able to introduce the speaker and support the 17th of MAY. Sandra will do the planning for this event.

Sandra advised that we are looking for an educational event. Sandra discussed that Leslie Koller had stated that the library policy is that the customers of the library cannot pay for an event held at the library. Sandra wanted to confirm if this was correct and Robert confirmed that Leslie was correct however, he would review the policy and advise FOSL. Sandra's concern was that if this policy was correct, then it would preclude us from holding events at the library unless FOSL is willing to pay for the fee for an educational speaker and all other expenses.

Liaison to the Summerville Journal Scene (Ellen E. Hyatt)

1. Hello, with joy and renewed hope for libraries! The article in Our Lives Change @ Your Library series appeared in the JOURNAL SCENE (SJS, WED., Oct. 23, 2019, p. A3; Yes, in the front portion of the paper this time). The article included the ideas from the Executive Board about voting "Yes" for libraries. Thank you for your fine ideas.

There will be an article about gratitude for the votes to close out the year. If there is something special you would like me to look at to include, please let me know at eehyatt@homesc.com by Sunday 11/17/19.

2. A. In April 2020, the Induction Ceremony of the Board of Governors of the SC Academy of Authors will be in Aiken, SC. The weekend is filled with events in which some of you Friends might be interested. I can bring the details in January 2020.

B. It is with pleasure to let you know that this fall librarian Leslie Koller was nominated for a position on the Board of Governors of the South Carolina Academy of Authors. She was voted in and she accepted. Congratulations to Leslie!

Upcoming Dates:

- Third Thursday-November 21st-We will be participating; Gleason is reserving a space. Our theme will be "Thank you, Dorchester County!"
- Executive Board Meeting, Tuesday, November 26, 2019, 1:30PM, Perkins on Trolley
- Bylaws Review Committee will meet the second week in December
- Greening of the Library, December 12, 2019, 9:30AM-NOON
- January General Meeting, Tuesday, 1/14/2020 at 6:30PM, Westvaco Room, Seago Library
- Next Book Sale: January 31 – February 2, 2020

For the Good of the Order-Ellen Hyatt

Ellen shared a quote from Margaret Mead:

"Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For indeed, that's all who ever have."

Adjourn (Westfall)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20PM