

Hampton County Library Minutes

August 1st, 2024

Present: Emerson Wiles, Sarah Coppola, Dr. Kercher, Elizabeth Haynes, Dwana Doctor, Chrissy Cook (Branch Manager), Carolyn Fortson (Regional Director)

Introductions from current and new members and invocation by Emerson Wiles.

Discussion began with the Ottie Lay Memorial Fund when interest is earned it is transferred to the other are the other Ottie Lay fund.

Ms. Fortson stated a bylaws draft will be sent out to the new and current members. Suggestion was made to vote as a board to use funds that have been put in for salary increase.

Mr. Wiles will talk with Emily Hiers for more background information on when and how the fund was established.

Library report was given by Hampton Branch Manager, Chrissy Cook. (See attached.)

The board was informed that Joy, Estill Library Branch Manager, has relocated to Tennessee to attend school and that issues for staffing is prevalent. The current library assistant is assuming the role for now.

Ms. Fortson stated that library appropriations have been decreased by \$23,000 which pays salary for Hampton and Estill. State aid has been approved for \$150,000. The finance committee has been established for the region. Currently the bookmobile is in bad shape but is working to be repaired or replaced. A grant has been submitted to purchase outreach fan to increase outreach. The fall booklet is tentatively set to come out in September 2024. The Request of Reconsideration of Library Materials form needs a committee consisting of a board member, human resource and community person. Elizabeth Haynes volunteered to serve as the board representative.

Old business

According to Article 7 Section 4, page 4, Article 8 Section 1, article 11 under the amendments are references to the ongoing discussion of the Ottie Lay Memorial Fund. Mr. Wiles stated that the bylaws may possibly be amended. Ms. Fortson will talk to the auditor and Mr. Wiles offered to run it by a lawyer.

The town of Brunson wants to start a library but would have to do it under AHJ. It cannot be done independently.

There are currently 8 board members. However, LaSonya Bryson Murdaugh and Sharon Robertson have missed several board meetings and their positions may be dismissed/replaced. (Refer to board bylaws on attendance.) Minutes from the October 27th meeting are missing. All minutes are required to be sent to the state library and posted on the website.

New board members Dr. Kercher and Sarah Coppola filled out and submitted applications, but the Clerk of Court position is vacant. Therefore, the chairman and Regional Director will take responsibility on allowing new members to sit on the board.

Discussion on Friends of the Library will be tabled until the next meeting.

The library staff and Regional Director have concerns with the cleanliness and productivity of the county custodial service. The library currently needs to be pressure washed, driveway needs to be paved along with other minor problems.

Motion for dismissal was made by Dr. Kercher and second by Elizabeth Haynes. All were in favor.