

Jasper County Library
Board of Trustees
Meeting minutes
1/28/2025

Present

Trustees:

Julie Mikols, Chair
Glenice Watts, Vice-Chair
Sandi Vito, Secretary
Daniel Gemmell
Billy Weaver
Julie Aloiso

Staff:

Abigail Ashley, Acting Regional Director
Darlene Thomas-Burroughs, Hardeeville Branch Manager
Marcia Cleland, Pratt Branch Manager

Guests:

Eileen Cole, President, Friends of Pratt Library
Carolyn Crosby, President, Friends of Hardeeville Library
Beth Miller, Vice-President, Friends of Hardeeville Library

Chair called the meeting to order at 5:14 p.m.
October minutes were approved.

Budget presentation

Jasper County and AHJ library revenue and expenses are within the trustee approved budgets. Jasper County is up-to-date on its quarterly payments to the AHJ library system.

Pratt Branch Report, *Presented by Marcia Cleland, Hardeeville Branch Manager*
Utilization Report

	<u>Oct-Dec Total</u>
Directive Questions	272
Computer Usage	303
Patrons	1624
Reference Questions	571

Programs held during the Oct-Dec quarter, included:

Toddler Story Time, What's Up Saturday, Halloween Party, Christmas Puppet Show, Healthy Eating, Fire Department training. Total attendance at programs was 81 adults, 6 teens, 23 children. One hundred and ninety-two people used the meeting room, including organizations such as Jasper Food Bank. Jasper County Historical Society and Palmetto Speech.

The library closed on December 4, 2024 and reopened on January 2, 2025 in the new temporary location.

Pratt Renovations – Construction on Pratt Library’s permanent space began with an expected completion timeline of 18 months. The renovations committee, a joint committee of the trustees and Friends group, will meet in March to discuss fundraising for furniture, landscaping, and other items needed for the new space

Hardeeville Library Report, *Presented by Darlene Thomas-Burroughs*

More than 11 events were held during the months of October – December, such as Harvesting Herb Garden Teas, Storytime, Turkey Hunt, Friends Book Sale, and Fireside Storytime.

Volunteers in Tax Assistance (VITA) will provide services at the library on Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., beginning February 4 and ending April 8, 2025.

Acting Regional Director’s Report, *presented by Abigail Ashley, Acting Regional Director*
Hoopla, which provides electronic resources, including eBooks, audiobooks, music, and movies launched in January 2025. 92 patrons have created Hoopla accounts, borrowing 253 titles in the first month after the launch.

Sprinter Van Grant – The required documents to receive a \$50,000 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant for an outreach have been submitted. The State Library confirmed the Institute of Museum and Library Services approved the grant for the purpose of purchasing the outreach vehicle.

Bookmobile – The bookmobile underwent repairs in October and November but is operational now. In December and January, the bookmobile made 59 stops, serving more than 200 patrons.

Friends of Pratt Library Report, *presented by Eileen Cole*

The Friends of the Pratt Library purchased a flag and other signage for the temporary Pratt space. Planning for Spring programming will begin, including outreach to the Spanish speaking community.

Friends of the Hardeeville Library Report, *presented by Carolyn Crosby*

The Hardeeville Friends group reports 55 members and is actively working on its social media presence. They hosted book sale events in the last quarter, receiving 3,400 book donations, 99 of which were donated to the library for circulation. A total of 1,225 books were sold, raising \$1,531.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Submitted by Sandi Vito, Secretary
Approved: April 22, 2025