

**Pamunkey Regional Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
January 25, 2023**

The Pamunkey Regional Library (PRL) Board of Trustees (BOT) met on Wednesday, January 25, 2023, at the King and Queen Branch Library.

Attendees

Attending were Trustees:

Goochland County: Barb Young, Barbara Sensabaugh
Hanover County: Ryan Martin, Julie May, Joe O’Connor, Mike Smith
King and Queen County: Tricia Simpkins
King William County: Mary Shipman

Unable to attend:

King William County: John Edwards

Guests Attending:

Jim Taylor: Deputy County Administrator, Hanover County
Christie Shumacher: Atlee Branch Library parent
????? Need the list that was given to Kelly

Library staff present included:

Tom Shepley: PRL Director
Jamie Stoops: PRL Deputy Director
Sherida Bradby: PRL Deputy Director
Kelly Pridgen: PRL Public Services Coordinator – Youth

1. Call to Order/ Welcome

Chair Tricia Simpkins called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and welcomed all BOT members and visitors who were in attendance. Special visitor, Jim Taylor, Deputy County Administrator from Hanover County, was introduced by T. Shepley.

2. Consideration of Agenda Amendments

M. Smith requested that an item be added to New Business to review the duties of the PRL Board of Trustees.

3. Citizens’ Time

A request was made by ??????? to cede time of three visitors present to Christie Shumacher so her speaking time would be nine minutes. The request was denied.

Each citizen who was to speak was limited to three minutes with no more than ten minutes total for citizens speaking.

Ira Staley: Hanover County Resident

I. Staley stated that the PRL Board is responsible for what comes into the libraries. He read the book jacket description of the book How to Shoot Your Parents and Get Away with It. He asked if the PRL Board would put this book in the PR Libraries. He then read the book jacket description of I Seduced my Neighbor's Granddaughter by Nathan Purior and again asked if the PRL Board would put this book in the PR Libraries. I. Staley's time was then called.

Debbie Staley: Hanover County Resident

D. Staley brought two parts of the Code of Virginia:

¶ 42.1-36.1 – D. Staley stated that this Code requires libraries to block internet access with pornography to minors. This Code is found in Title 42.1 Libraries: Chapter 2: Local and Regional Libraries [§§ 42.1-33 through 42.1-45]

§ 18.2-390 Definitions – She stated that this Code defines pornography for any persons less than 18 years of age and stated it defined nudity, sex conduct, sexual excitement, or sadomasochistic abuse as harmful. This Code is under Article 6 – Prohibited Sales and Loans to Juveniles.

D. Staley also said that the PRL should consider where books are put in the library.

Christie Shumacher: Hanover County Resident

C. Shumacher said that she had a meeting with Kelly Pridgen, PRL Public Services Coordinator – Youth and Sherida Bradby, PRL Deputy Director. During that meeting she said she does not want censorship of the books in question, but that she does want books in the correct sections in the library. K. Pridgen and S. Bradby said that the library considers moving books to different sections censorship. C. Shumacher said she told them she does not agree.

C. Shumacher stated that she feels books are being placed by appeal of the books, but that Library staff are not reading the books before they are placed.

C. Shumacher said that the Juvenile section is for ages 3-7 and that the teen section is for ages 12-17. She stated that the difference between the maturity of a 12 year old and a 17 year old is huge. She suggested that there be a focus on children in grades 6-8 which she feels is not currently being addressed by PRL. She stated that she thinks books need to be checked for this age group.

C. Shumacher did some research of the Henrico County Public Libraries. She stated that Henrico seems to move controversial books up to older age sections in their libraries but that PRL seems to move books down.

4. Consideration of the Consent Agenda

The items on the Consent Agenda were:

1. November and December 2022 Budget Reports
2. November and December 2022 Warrants Reports
3. December 2022 Board of Trustee Minutes

MOTION: B. Young made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items with minor modifications that were made to the December 7, 2022 BOT minutes. The motion was seconded by M. Smith and passed unanimously by the BOT.

5. New Business

A. Library Board Responsibilities

M. Smith suggested that we have a series of sessions for the BOT about what “the Board should and shouldn’t be doing”. T. Shepley stated that this will be done at a later date.

6. Old Business

A. Collection Process Report – Staff Report from December 2022

T. Shepley distributed the Collection Development at PRL report to the BOT members. He reported that this report was created by a PRL staff committee. R. Martin suggested that the report be made available to the public through the PRL website. J. May suggested that the report also be made available to the four PRL member Boards of Supervisors.

J. May made a recommendation for discussion about possibly putting some sort of sticker/label on any controversial books. J. O’Connor suggested that J. May put together a motion to bring to the February 2023 BOT meeting. J. May agreed to do this.

B. FY2024 Budget Process Update

T. Shepley stated that the FY2024 budget requests have been delivered to all four PRL localities. He said the only meeting set up thus far is with King William in March 2023.

C. Montpelier Building Update

T. Shepley reported that Hanover County has extended the timeline for bids so bidders have time for more review of the site.

D. West Point Building Update

T. Shepley said that things are currently the same as was reported at the December 2023 BOT meeting but that things are still moving forward. He stated that the town of West Point will also contribute funds for the project but they have some conditions that will need to be met.

E. Upper King William Update

T. Shepley reports that King William County is considering requesting RFP’s for a new Upper King William Branch library building. The new building will be built on property that has previously been proffered.

7. Report of Library Director

1. T. Shepley reported that the staff is now working with PBMares, LLP as the new Auditing firm.
2. The Annual Statistics Report has been sent to the Library of Virginia.
3. Hiring is moving forward.
4. K. Pridgen and Sherida Bradby had a meeting with Christie Shumacher.

5. R. Martin asked that a policy for time parameters for public statements be put together and approved by the BOT before our next meeting on February 22, 2023 so that all participants will be familiar with the parameters as defined.

9. Adjournment

The February 2023 BOT meeting will be held on February 22, 2023, at the Rockville Branch Library at 10:00 a.m.

Having completed the business of the PRL BOT, Chair T. Simpkins adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m. by acclamation of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Young
PRL Board of Trustees' Secretary

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