

The Regular Meeting of the Library Board of Control was called to order on Monday, October 24, 2022 at 5:30 pm with the following:

PRESENT: Bennie Smith, President
Courtney Hubbell, Vice-President
Lauren Bordelon
Tonya Hearn-entered 5:36pm
Francine Middleton
Ruby LeBlanc

ABSENT: Archie Chaisson, Library Liaison
Carolyn Soley

Also present in the meeting room: Mrs. Laura Sanders, Library Director; Mrs. Sherry Lucas, Finance/HR/Operations Manager; Mrs. Dana Clement, Administrative Assistant, and Mr. Mitch Orgeron, Parish Government.

Ms. Smith stated after roll call, "We have a quorum and can move forward with our meeting."

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited together.

A motion to accept the LBC agenda was made by Mrs. Hubbell, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc, and carried unanimously.

A motion to accept the minutes of the July 25, 2022 Regular Meeting was made by Mrs. Hubbell, seconded by Mrs. Middleton, and carried unanimously.

A motion to accept the minutes of the September 29, 2022 Special Meeting was made by Mrs. Bordelon, seconded by Mrs. Hearn, and carried unanimously.

Public Wishing to Address the Board: Ernest Boudreaux, 1109 Ethel St., Lockport, LA 70374-asked about a possible pedestrian bridge from the Lockport Post Office to the Lockport Library. Mrs. Sanders explained this would be something Parish Government and the City of Lockport would have to figure out together since that area is a drainage servitude. Mr. Orgeron mentioned he will reach out to Parish Admin. on this topic.

Finance Report: Mrs. Lucas reported that LPPL has a fund balance of \$3.6 million. Project Updates: Thibodaux's punch list is complete, just waiting on BETCO to submit hard copy of owner's manuals, warranties, final drawings, and final invoice. The library has "paid \$3,493,720 on construction and furnishings, with only \$52,630 left to be billed. This project was budgeted at \$4.25 million and is coming in under budget." Lockport Entryway project is almost complete with a few punch list items left valued at \$17,558. The Library "budgeted for \$800,000 with \$657,885 paid out to date. This is another project that will come in under budget." Mrs. Lucas also noted that the Golden Meadow Branch rebuild and South Lafourche Branch renovation are still waiting on funding from insurance and FEMA claims. The South Lafourche Roof went out to bid on October 12th as a package with the Matthews Complex. A motion was made by Mrs. LeBlanc, seconded by Mrs. Bordelon, to accept the Finance Report. The motion carried unanimously.

Director Report: Mrs. Sanders reported managing the daily operations of the library system. "Fall season has the library participating in many fairs and festivals throughout our parish." Mrs. Sanders informed the Board that on Tuesday, November 1st, the *Library 2 Geaux* bookmobile will visit the Cut Off Youth Center and on Thursday, November 3rd it will visit the Golden Meadow Town Hall. Both sites will be visited each week, COYC on Tuesday and Golden Meadow on Thursday and will feature a Storytime, Wi-Fi, printing service, material collections for check out and hold pick-up for materials ordered. "We're excited for this new temporary service of *Library 2 Geaux* to help our South Lafourche and Golden Meadow communities while we continue to recover from Hurricane Ida. It's a work in progress and will be modified as our patrons communicate their needs and wants." A motion was made by Mrs. Middleton, seconded Mrs. Hubbell, to accept the Director Report. The motion carried unanimously.

Special Order of Business:

1. Election of Officers for 2023: Mrs. Sanders opened the election for 2023 Officers for the Library Board of Control by asking for nominations for President. Ruby LeBlanc nominated Bennie Smith for President. Mrs. Sanders asked Ms. Bennie if she accepted, and she agreed. Mrs. Sanders asked three times if there were any more nominees for President, and there were none. Mrs. Sanders announced Bennie Smith as the President for 2023. Again, in a repeated effect, Mrs. Sanders opened the floor for nominations for

Vice-President. Bennie Smith nominated Courtney Hubbell for Vice President, and she accepted. Mrs. Sanders asked three times if there were any more nominees for Vice-President, and there were none. Mrs. Sanders announced Courtney Hubbell as the Vice-President for 2023. Mrs. Sanders, "Congratulations to Bennie Smith and Courtney Hubbell as our newly elected officers for the next calendar year. Thank you for your time and support of our Library System."

New Business:

1. Discussion and approval of the 2023 LPPL Employee calendar; Mrs. Sanders explained we followed the previous year's calendar and the *LPPL Holiday policy 5.02*. With no discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. LeBlanc, seconded by Mrs. Bordelon, to accept the 2023 LPPL Employee calendar. The motion carried unanimously.
2. Discussion and approval of the 2023 Library Board Calendar; Mrs. Sanders explained, we followed the previous LBC calendar, with all Board meetings to be held at Lockport Branch at 5:00pm. Per a prior suggestion, the July meeting was moved to August because many people are busy in July. Mrs. Sanders also stated that with a building project looming there may be times that a Special Meeting will need to be called between our regularly scheduled board meetings. A motion was made by Mrs. Middleton, seconded by Mrs. Hubbell, to accept the 2023 LBC calendar year. The motion carried unanimously.
3. Discussion and approval of LPPL's cost share for the 2023 Employee Health Insurance Coverage; Mrs. Sanders explained, "Blue Cross health premiums are going up by 8.9% and currently the library pays 96.7% of individual coverage and 89% of dependent coverage. I'm recommending we continue the same cost share for 2023, so that only a minimal increase is passed along to employees." Mrs. Sanders reminded the members that there are sufficient funds in the 2023 budget. Mr. Orgeron explained that the Parish is absorbing the whole increase for their employees but they will not be receiving COLA because of this decision. A motion was made by Mrs. Bordelon, seconded by Mrs. Hubbell, to continue the current LPPL cost share for 2023 Employee Health Insurance Coverage. A roll call vote was taken; Ms. Smith yes, Mrs. Hubbell yes, Mrs. Bordelon yes, Mrs. Hearn's yes, Mrs. LeBlanc yes, Mrs. Middleton yes, and Mrs. Soley absent. The motion carried 6-0-1.
4. Discussion and approval of the LPPL cost share for the 2023 Employee Dental Insurance Coverage; Mrs. Sanders explained that dental premiums will remain the same for 2023 but there was a suggestion on the floor that the Library start covering the equivalent of the full amount of employee only mid-level instead of only covering the equivalent of employee only low-level. This would be an increase in cost of \$2.38 per pay period per participant. Mrs. Sanders indicated that the 2023 budget has sufficient funds to cover this minimal additional expense, making the Library's total expense for dental in 2023 to be about \$15,142. A motion was made by Mrs. Bordelon, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc to approve a dental premium cost share in which the Library covers the equivalent of employee only mid-level coverage for all participants. A roll call vote was taken; Ms. Smith yes, Mrs. Hubbell yes, Mrs. Bordelon yes, Mrs. Hearn's yes, Mrs. LeBlanc yes, Mrs. Middleton yes, and Mrs. Soley absent. The motion carried 6-0-1.
5. Discussion and approval of participating in the Parish's Employee Assistance Program; Mrs. Sanders explained EAP from Hidalgo Health Associates is a confidential counseling program that is offered at no cost to all LPPL employees and their dependents to provide almost immediate access to mental health and other counseling services. The Library has participated in this parish-offered benefit for several years now, at a cost of \$3.25 per employee per month. A motion was made by Mrs. Hubbell, seconded by Mrs. Hearn's, to continue participation in the EAP. A roll call vote was taken; Ms. Smith yes, Mrs. Hubbell yes, Mrs. Bordelon yes, Mrs. Hearn's yes, Mrs. LeBlanc yes, Mrs. Middleton yes, and Mrs. Soley absent. The motion carried 6-0-1.

With no further business to discuss, a motion for adjournment was made by Mrs. LeBlanc, seconded by Mrs. Hubbell, and was carried unanimously. The Library Board of Control adjourned at 6:30pm.