

**Library Advisory Committee**  
**November 6, 2014**  
**Milton, Florida**

The Library Advisory Committee met on the above date with the following members present: Michael Sandler, Bill DuBois, Martha Lyle and Robert Menzer. Also present were Hunter Walker (County Administrator) DeVann Cook (Human Resources Director) Gwen Wilson (Library Director) and Emily Spencer. Michael Sandler called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

The minutes of the August 7, 2014 meeting were approved.

Gwen Wilson introduced Kevin Liss who will be the new Manager at the Pace Library.

**Library Foundation Update**

Ms. Wilson stated that she receives questions about the status of the Library Foundation and what her role is with the Foundation so she would like to begin today's meeting with an update on where we are. She stated that when she became the Director of the Library Foundation Board she had taken a hiatus but in order for us to be able to keep up the annual records, IRS information, 501(c)(3) status, we really needed someone to be active enough to make sure those things were in order. She added that two of the previous board members had agreed to stay on to take care of those type of things and make sure it remained active and they have done a very good job of that so far. She said that she is not sure how interested they are in continuing but are very willing to make sure things are stable and in order. They are not actively trying to recruit new Foundation members at this point. She said that our primary focus is to make sure our system is stable and that we have all the services that we need. Ms. Wilson said that eventually when they are at a point where they begin to recruit, she will be available but that they can take care of the day to day running of the Foundation.

Mr. Walker stated that the Foundation had been created under the previous library director and he wasn't sure if it had been very active. He added that we needed to have some kind of resolution to determine whether or not it was to be functional. The Foundation has received a fairly large bequeath which was not an insignificant amount. He further added that the county does not need to be involved in this because it is a separate entity and we need to have someone to take it over that is in it for the long term. Ms. Lyle stated that most people that make those type of bequeaths are interested in one specific library.

Mr. Sandler said the intent for the Foundation was for these type of large donations that are designated by legal documents or family wishes to have a legitimate place to go to help the system. He added that the problem is having members that can actively go and implement new things with these donations and at this time there are only two active members of the Foundation. He said that they are busy taking care of the monthly

bank account and making sure that the State of Florida registration is done every year. Mr. Sandler did state that to his knowledge all of our Friends groups in the county have active 501(c)(3) charitable status and Ms. Lyle added that the Friends groups are all performing those same duties. Mr. Walker stated that there is an added responsibility of managing the revenue and proceeds.

Mr. Walker said that he and Mr. Cook needed to sit down with the County Attorney and discuss the proper way for this to be handled. Mr. Dubois stated that it would be a good idea if the current Foundation members attend the next meeting to resolve the request. Mr. Sandler asked if there really a point in keeping the Foundation active since the other Friends Groups are performing those same duties. Mr. Menzer stated that it concerned him that there is a substantial amount of money that is not benefitting anyone.

Ms. Lyle stated that in terms of capital improvements, there is a plan but approving something that will make the libraries very unbalanced in terms of the services they are able to offer she doesn't feel is a plan. She added that when any group has a lot of money and they want to spend it on their personal use you have a problem in what is fair and appropriate for the rest of the system.

### **eBooks Update**

Ms. Wilson said we are now in our final stages of an agreement with the vendor AXIS 360 and that the reason we went with AXIS is the ease of use. We would have the ability to get all formats from one vendor. Multiple formats can be ordered from a single screen with easy navigation. All book jackets are viewable on the magic wall. It also gives patrons an opportunity to pre-order items that are coming soon.

Ms. Wilson stated that on the initial opening day selection their professional librarians will work with us to make sure that we have a nice sizable collection. Then we will focus primarily on getting the best sellers on popular titles but will still leave our free book resources on our eBook resources page on the website. That information will be left intact so people can still get older titles. Mr. Dubois asked if this platform will work with iPad or Kindles and Ms. Wilson said the only vendor with which you can use a Kindle is Overdrive. She added that all of the ones that are newer are able to work. She said we are hoping that eventually some of the publishing companies will allow us to be similar to the state platform so that the cost is less expensive for us and hopefully they will all get on board and offer the same limits.

### **Other Business**

There was no new business.

**Next Meeting Date**

After discussion it was determined to keep the quarterly meeting dates as is, the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Dubois mentioned that he would like to have the meetings at the different libraries as had been done in the past.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

  
Chairman