

Vicksburg District Library Board - Minutes from meeting of August 21, 2014

Roll Call:

Present: Lloyd Appell (President), Ron Smith (Vice President), Louise Russell (Treasurer), Chuck Ocvirek, and Cheryl Lee (Trustees), Eloine Theobald (Trustee), and Director John Sheridan.

Absent: David Aubry (Secretary), Judy Imanse (Trustee).

Meeting was called to order at 6:04 by President Appell.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes approved with consent by all members present.

Finance:

- Approval of Bills in the amount of \$12,905.46. MSC: Smith and Lee. Roll call vote, all present Yeas.
- Review of Financials and Investment Report. Taxes are nearly all in which is great!
- Paycheck signing: Sept. 16 Lee and Smith; Sept. 30 Russell and Imanse
- **Communications:** None

New Business: Renovations and Fundraising Discussion

At 6:30 (during the following discussion) we were joined by member of the public/guest Mike Timpe of U Avenue, Vicksburg.

Director Sheridan distributed a list titled "Renovation needs for library" which was generated by the staff. Each line item was discussed and the board agreed that some of the items should be paid for out of our current budget rather than resorting to a fundraising campaign for maintenance and upkeep of the library. It was decided that the library director and staff will investigate costs (with professional quotes) for each item and bring back to the board so we can determine if moving on to a fundraising committee is necessary or which items would be good candidates for community fundraising efforts. General discussion on fundraising ideas and use of volunteers followed. Ron Smith also asked if the

library would be able to access “matching gift” incentives from donor’s employers. Research is needed to get a definitive answer. Once we begin to focus on fundraising efforts we can explore these further.

Discussions also regarding the tax exempt status of the library and the possible need to file additional forms with the IRS. We are considered nonprofit but there is a particular requirement for many of these local business grants (i.e. Lowes, Target, PNC Bank) that will only take applicants with the designated status of 501 (c)(3). Basically they have a standard computerized “fill in the blank” type form which does not have our status as a choice. This puts us at a disadvantage because we cannot apply for these grants. There is a fee to file the forms for this tax status and John will investigate so we can determine if it is worth it to be able to access these types of grants.

The board was also given a “Fund-Raising Readiness” handout to review for discussion at another time.

Report of the Director: Review of monthly statistics and activities detailed in written report. The Summer Reading Program was well attended and John attended a grant writing workshop which he says has already proved to be very beneficial and informative.

Adjournment was at 7:25PM

Submitted by Trustee Cheryl Lee