

Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library Commission
Martinsburg Berkeley County Public Library
March Meeting Minutes
March 25, 2021

Gary Wine, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:05PM.

Present: Gary Wine, Vice Chair; Billie Grey, Secretary; Karen Greenfield; Gretchen Fry, Librarian. Absent: Scott Campbell, Chair; Sara Douglass, Treasurer

A quorum being present, the items on the agenda were considered.

The minutes of the February 25, 2021 meeting were approved on a Greenfield/Grey motion by unanimous voice vote.

There were no Public Comments.

The Financial Report ending February 28, 2021 presented by Lynn Walker was approved on a Greenfield/Grey motion by unanimous voice vote.

The Director's Report was presented by Gretchen Fry and will be included in the minutes.

Unfinished Business:

Staff is working with experts on the Martinsburg Facility Study and Masterplan Study. Currently considering a series of meetings with stakeholders.

New Business:

A Budget Committee was appointed to develop the FYE 2022. Sara Douglass, if available; Lynn Walker; Gretchen Fry; and Karen Greenfield.

The Grey/Greenfield motion to adjourn was approved by unanimous voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 5:21PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Billie J. Grey, Secretary

Directors Report March 2021

Library Improvements

We expect flooring in new Martinsburg room to be installed the first week in April. Tables have been removed and the electrician made sure wiring was safely neutralized. The Olde Berkeley Garden Club has started the process of refurbishing the plantings in Martinsburg's Plaza using the funds from the Plant America Award. We expect to have new copiers for all branches in April.

Library Funding

James Poisal bequeathed 5,000 to the Hedgesville Library. His Aunt, June Poisal, was the librarian at the Naylor Memorial library.

The library received a 5,000 "Citizen Scientist" grant through University of Pittsburg. Sarah Shewbridge applied for the grant; she and Emily Jones will be administering it. The library will be distributing 200 science kits to Berkeley County residents.

Possible Future Library Funding

I applied to the WVLC for a 10,000 Cares Act Grant (IMLS) for K-12 digital materials for our Overdrive Consortium. The West Virginia Library Commission will receive 2 million dollars of LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) funding from the American Rescue plan. Guidelines for how the funds will be spent are not yet established, but will probably be focused on digital networks and connectivity.

The Build America's Libraries Act was introduced in both the house and the senate. If it passes, this bill will "address decades of underinvestment by providing funds to repair and construct modern library facilities in underserved and disadvantaged communities"

Other

Amy Eakle will be the library's representative on the Berkeley County 250th steering committee. In partnership with other community organizations, the library's staff will create programs for various age groups centered on the 250th theme. The library will also promote Berkeley County 250th events to patrons.

I have accepted an invitation to join the WVLA (West Virginia Library Association) legislative committee.

Upcoming Conferences

WVLA Spring Fling (April 6-9th) is virtual this year and is free to WVLA members.

ALA (June 23-29th) is virtual but not free.