

St. Charles Parish Library

Board of Control Meeting
January 19, 2021 at 6:00pm

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the St. Charles Parish Library Board of Control was held at 6:00pm, Tuesday, January 19, 2021 in Council Chambers at the Courthouse in Hahnville.

Members Present: Celeste Uzee, Charlene Alexander-Armstrong, Beverly DeLaune, Lori Lyons, and Randy Matherne

Members Absent: Tammy Windmann, Deborah Raziano, and Holly Fonseca

Staff Present: Leann Benedict and Lauren Pitz

Others: None

Mrs. Uzee called the meeting to order and asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silent prayer.

Mrs. Uzee asked for approval of the minutes of the November 17, 2020 meeting. Mrs. DeLaune moved that the minutes be approved as e-mailed and was seconded by Mrs. Armstrong. The motion passed unanimously.

The attendance report for board members was completed.

The next agenda item was Public Comment. There were no requests for public comment.

The next agenda item was the Librarian's Report. Mrs. Benedict wished everyone a happy New Year and reported that the library staff has remained busy through the holidays. The library continues to offer virtual programming but have done a couple of in-person programs. The outdoor movie nights held at the East Regional Library were successful. There was one scheduled at the St. Rose Branch that had to be canceled due to the weather, but the library staff looks forward to being able to reschedule that one and hold more outdoor movie nights in the future. Mrs. Benedict also reported that Taylor Robert, the Youth Services Assistant, was invited to be a part of a virtual panel discussion sponsored by our movie licenses company, Swank Motion Pictures, and the Connecticut Library Consortium on March 3rd. Taylor will share tips and discuss our successes with the recent shift to outdoor movie programs during the pandemic. The Paradis Branch held an in-person Cookbook Club Meeting at their branch in December. Virtual programming continues and we expect that this will continue for a while. The library continues to offer our monthly programs-to-go crafts for children, teens, and adults. Other virtual programs include Zoom storytimes and Zoom outreach with the ARC of St. Charles. The library has also begun doing outreach visits again once a month at each of the Farmer's Markets. Mrs.

Uzee asked how everything is going with the implementation of going fine free. Mrs. Benedict informed the board that the library has been publicizing it through the website and Facebook page and Assistant Director Lauren Pitz has an interview scheduled with the Herald Guide on January 20th to talk about it. Mrs. Uzee asked Mrs. Benedict to let the staff know that their hard work is appreciated during these difficult times.

The next agenda item was Communications. There were no communications.

The first item of unfinished business taken up was the status of the Norco Branch construction. Mrs. Benedict informed the board that she is continuing to work with the parish legal department on this. The parish attorney's office did send a letter to the bond company in December informing them that if they did not complete the project by December 31, 2020 that they would pursue further legal action. A brief discussion followed.

The next item of unfinished business was possible future plans and the feasibility study proposal for the Hahnville Branch Library. Mrs. Benedict asked that the feasibility study proposal be tabled until a future meeting as the legal department is still in the process of reviewing the proposal. Mrs. Benedict reminded the board that at the previous meeting, she had informed them that she had been contacted by a community member regarding a piece of property located at 15523 River Road in Hahnville that they are planning to sell. Mrs. Benedict informed the board that she and Assistant Directors Amy Duke and Lauren Pitz had gone to look at that property earlier in the day. They also looked at a second piece of property that has just gone up for sale, located at 15090 River Road. Mrs. Benedict recommended still doing the feasibility study on the existing property before making any further decisions. After a brief discussion, Mr. Matherne made a motion to table the feasibility study and Mrs. Lyons seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

The first item of new business was the election of Board officers for the 2021 term. Mrs. Uzee asked that Mrs. Benedict assume the chair for the nominations and election of new officers. Mrs. Benedict assumed the chair and all positions were declared vacant. Mrs. Benedict asked if there were any nominations for the position of President for the 2021 term. Mrs. Lyons moved that Mrs. Uzee serve as President for 2021 and Mrs. DeLaune seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and Mrs. Uzee was elected as President of the Library Board for 2021. Mrs. Benedict then asked if there were any nominations for the position of Vice-President for the 2021 term. Mrs. Uzee nominated Mrs. DeLaune and Mrs. Lyons seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and Mrs. DeLaune was elected as Vice-President of the Library Board for 2021. Mrs. Benedict turned the meeting over to Board President, Mrs. Celeste Uzee.

The next item of new business was Resolution 21-1, the Legislative Auditor's "Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire." Each year the parish must confirm that its agencies are in compliance with this document. This resolution is passed by the library board and then sent to the Finance department. Mrs. Uzee asked Mrs. Benedict to read the resolution. Mrs. DeLaune made a motion to adopt the resolution. Mrs. Armstrong seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The final agenda item was Public Comment. There was no public comment.

There being no further business, Mrs. Uzee called for a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Lyons moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Matherne seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

Celeste Uzee, President
St. Charles Parish Library Board

Leann Benedict, Secretary
St. Charles Parish Library Board