

Central Arkansas Library System
Board of Trustees Meeting
June 28, 2018
Bobby L. Roberts Library -- 1st Floor, Room 124

Board members in attendance were Marian Berry, Annette Herrington, Andre Guerrero, Marilyn Porter, Stephanie Gibson Branton, and John Bush. Sheila Wright, Sarah French, Mike Berg, Sophia Said, Bob Brown, Nancy Rousseau, and Kelly Moss were absent.

Staff members in attendance were Nate Coulter, Jackie Patel, David Stricklin, Carol Coffey, Adam Bearden, Nathan James, Jo Spencer, Lisa Donovan, Colin Thompson, Elizabeth Wooley, Hannah McSpadden, Joe Hudak, Ellen Samples, Joey Cole, Madelyn Ganos, Linda Ellis, and Elizabeth Newbern.

Action Items

1. Minutes

Due to the lack of a quorum, the motion to approve the May minutes was postponed.

2. Financial Report

Herrington did not present the May report, due to lack of quorum.

Both the presentation and the motion to approve the May report were postponed.

3. Changes to Board Policy 400 Revisited

Donovan noted that the branch services coordinators had spoken with numerous staff members, including Wooley and McSpadden, about how feasible it would be to create areas on our campuses to accommodate smokers and worked hard to see what the consensus was. Donovan passed the conversation to Hudak who said that after their meeting and giving an open commentary period to all the staff, the committee in charge of recommending changes to Policy 400 had concluded that the staff they consulted, even those who are or formerly were smokers, support a smoke-free environment for patrons. Hudak added that this type of unanimous agreement was rare amongst so many representatives from different branches but does seem to be the consensus.

Due to lack of quorum, the motion to approve all the changes to Board Policy 400 was postponed.

4. Gifts from Susan Gracey & Linda Riggs

Coulter reported that over the last two years, CALS has received two unexpected but generous donations from former patrons, Susan Gracey and Linda Riggs, of \$70,000 and \$100,000 respectively. He has spoken with relatives of these patrons and explained that if it would be in line with what their relatives would have wanted, he would like to transfer the money to the Foundation where it could be used to set up a fund that would go towards collection development. He mentioned that he had also been speaking with the Friends Foundation which supports the St. Paul Public Library in Minnesota. The Friends

Foundation has been very successful finding new ways to support the St. Paul Library and Coulter said CALS is speaking with them to develop better strategies going forward to help fund collection development and other critical funds from donations like these. He suggested using some of the donated funds to conduct a long term strategic plan for the library. Coulter asked for the Board's approval to transfer funds to the CALS Foundation and allocate these funds as he has outlined.

Due to lack of quorum, the motion to approve the allocation of funds to the Foundation was postponed.

Information Items

1. Marketing & Resource Development Report

Nathan James reported for Cathy Sanders, as she was unable to attend the meeting. James reported that Summer Reading Club (SRC) has been doing extremely well this year. CALS has already signed up 800 more people than we signed up all of last year. He asked Samples to go into more detail. She noted that there were still five more weeks of SRC left and that there are weekly programs scheduled at CALS's Hillcrest Hall location on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. She also said that Library Night at Arkansas Travelers is on July 26. She also said that the CALS One Read events for *Station Eleven* are happening on Facebook and in the branches. Additionally, CALS library card holders can access a free eBook version of *Station Eleven* by emailing outreach@cals.org.

James said that there would be an event with KAAV—The Mighty 1090—on Friday at 7:00 p.m. in the Ron Robinson Theater. He noted that the second FOCAL Used Book Sale is fast approaching and will begin on July 12 and run through July 14.

He announced that CALS has a new creative writer on its Marketing and Resource Development team, Rosslyn Elliott.

2. Butler Center Report

Stricklin reported several upcoming events for July. He said Sounds in the Stacks would be featuring R&B/jazz/pianist/vocalist Tim Anthony, who will be performing at McMath on Tuesday, July 10, at 6:30 p.m. Legacies & Lunch, featuring Rachel Patton talking about "Arkansas's Most Endangered Places," will take place on Wednesday, July 11, at noon in the Darragh Center. He also noted that the film *Relocation, Arkansas*, a documentary film about the World War II Japanese American internment camp at Rohwer, directed by Vivienne Schiffer, will be screened on Friday, July 13, at 3:00 p.m. in the Ron Robinson Theater. He added that this event was co-sponsored by the Clinton School of Public Service.

Stricklin said that this month's Second Friday Art Night will also take place on July 13 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Galleries at Library Square (Bobby L. Roberts Library). There will be two collections opening that night: "A Matter of Mind & Heart: Portraits of Japanese American Identity," from the Butler Center's Vogel/Gould internment camp art collection, will be in Concordia Hall; and "A Legacy of Brewers," featuring the art of Nicholas, Adrian, and Edwin Brewer, will be in the West Gallery. Stricklin said that CALS's art administrator, Colin Thompson, organized the loan of "Sentinel of Freedom," from the U.S. Naval Academy. This is Adrian Brewer's iconic 1941 painting and is one of the most reproduced patriotic images in US history.

Stricklin additionally noted that there has been a great deal of comment on the parallels between the WWII treatment of Japanese Americans and the treatment of families incarcerated at the southern US border. The current exhibition in Concordia Hall is attracting a great deal of attention.

He said that there would be two events occurring at the end of July. The first is the Annual Genealogy Workshop, on Saturday, July 21, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Ron Robinson Theater with Juliana Szucs from Ancestry. The second is the Michael Burks Tribute, part of the Arkansas Sounds music series, on Friday, July 27, at 7:00 p.m. in the Ron Robinson Theater. Tickets will cost \$10 and are available for purchase at ArkansasSounds.org.

3. Building Report

Bearden reported that everything is ready to go with the UA Little Rock finish-out. CALS is just waiting to receive the building permit to begin construction. He said there had apparently been some internal processing delays that he hoped would be resolved shortly.

Bearden said that Dee Brown Library's geothermal well field had experienced a system failure this week, so it was being converted to a conventional system. He stated that the cost of discovering the exact cause of the system failure and resolving that problem would cost CALS more than just implementing a more traditional and easily repairable system.

4. Statistical Report

Coffey reported that total circulation for May was 213,758, down 1% from May 2017. She noted that digital circulation was 50,764, which is up 15% over the same month last year, and is the largest total for digital checkouts to date. Coffey added that to her surprise, desktop computer use, at 19,204, was up 4% over last May. With a few month-to-month exceptions, that usage had dropped monthly for the last couple of years, but has been trending up in recent months. She said that the number of groups reserving a meeting room rose 24% to 610 in May, while the meeting attendance rose 17%. That growth can most likely be attributed to the fact that several branches hosted early voting for the primary election in May. Finally, Coffey said that attendance at library programs was up 20% to 21,585.

5. Committee Report

Berry thanked the Personnel Committee for their hard work on the executive director's evaluation, and she apologized for being unable to hold the executive succession due to the lack of quorum. She stated the session would need to be postponed until the next meeting.

6. Director's Report

Coulter noted that he submitted a report before the meeting to ensure enough time remained for the executive session, however, he had a few additional notes:

He said that there have been several staffing changes over the past two months. CALS has hired Joey Cole as the new manager at the Ron Robinson Theater. Cole worked in the theater department at Pulaski Tech for about 20 years before coming to CALS. Coulter also noted that Chris Beaumont has become the new Head of Adult Programming after serving as the FOCAL Volunteer Coordinator.

He also noted that CALS received a letter of complaint earlier this month about the placement of a LGBT display in Youth Services. The letter writer stated that they felt it was inappropriate to have the display in the children's book section and asked for it to be removed. CALS staff has since done some research and have concluded that the display is in line with our policies of inclusivity and those of other libraries around the country. CALS does not plan to remove the display and Board President Berry will send a reply to the concerned patron explaining the reason for supporting such displays and library materials. Guerrero agreed with this decision.

7. Other

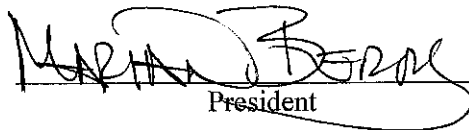
Coulter asked Nathan James to give the Board an updated account of the recent Ransomware attack that hit the Central Arkansas Library System earlier this month. James said that the Ransomware began encrypting some of our computers on June 3 at 7:30 a.m. He said IT identified the threat and prevented further spread later that day; however, the attack encrypted a few servers, including the old website server, and a few staff computers. James said Patel's foresight in purchasing cyber insurance last spring really saved the day. That policy had a \$15,000 deductible covered all other expenses, which included connecting CALS with cyber security experts from the company Kivu in San Francisco and the data privacy law firm Mullins Coughlin. Guerrero asked what the insurance covered. James responded that it covered all expenses greater than the deductible, including additional legal and technology consulting done with these two companies.

The hacker requested payment in the form of one Bitcoin, which at the time, was worth roughly \$8,000. After consulting with the experts at Mullins Coughlin, CALS decided to pay the amount since three of the servers had been encrypted, and one was the Accounting server. Unfortunately, it had not yet been transferred up to a virtual server, which is more secure. James noted that it has now been backed up to a virtual server to prevent situations like this in the future. James said that to the best of his knowledge no patron data and no staff data was affected. He also noted that the outcomes could have been worse. The St. Louis Public Library was encrypted out of 700 PCs and was asked to pay \$35,000. They did not pay the ransom, and it has cost them a much greater amount of money to attempt to recover their information.


Thompson announced that CALS plans to partner with the Arkansas Arts Center and ACANSA. CALS has agreed to provide gallery space for the Arts Center and locations for both ACANSA and Arts Center programming in the Fall.

Due to lack of quorum, the executive session that was scheduled for this meeting has been postponed.

Berry moved to adjourn, and the meeting dispersed.



President



Secretary