**CROSS COUNTY LIBRARY**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**March 29, 2016**

**Call to Order and Roll Call:** The meeting was called to order at 4:05 by Joy Shepherd.  Trustees in attendance were Joy Shepherd, Kitty Bingham, and Jerry Harvey.  George Anne joined the meeting at 4:30pm.  Also in attendance were John Paul Myrick, Executive Director and Claire Miller, Deputy Director.

**Public Participation:** N/A

Joy asked for a motion to approve the minutes from January 19, 2016.  Kitty moved to approve the minutes.  Jerry seconded the motion.  All aye, motion carried.

**Financial Reports, November 2015 through January 2016:** Joy asked if there was anything of note that John Paul needed to discuss about the financials and he said no, that it was pretty self-explanatory.  Kitty asked about the overage that was discussed at the last meeting.  John Paul said those overages would have been at the end of the fiscal year and we’ve started over with a new budget now.  John Paul also mentioned that the Auditors don’t want to see the Budget Analysis report and that it looks shady to move things around to reconcile the spending at the end of the year so he will not be doing that any more.  Kitty asked about the Building Repair and Maintenance Line Item in the December Financial report and John Paul said it was for the air conditioning repairs that we had done and he could pull the paperwork documenting it if Kitty would like him to.  Kitty said she thought it was the cost for the roof repair that John Paul had emailed the Trustees about.  John Paul said that the repair only totaled around $200.00, which was much less than he had anticipated.  The technology line was overspent because we paid ahead.  Joy mentioned that we had only spent 80% of the budget at the end of the year so that was a good thing.  Kitty moved to approve the financial reports for November 2015, December 2015, and January 2016.  Jerry seconded the motion.  All aye, motion carried.

**Operations and Staff Reports:** Claire highlighted items from the Operations reports for January and February 2016.  John Paul also pointed out that Claire had worked on and the library had received a grant from the Arkansas Community Foundation to create a mobile computer lab with a hotspot.  Joy said it would be great to use the extra laptops when there was a line of people waiting for the computers.  John Paul said that could be a possibility too.  Claire said that she was happy to be able to bring the lab out to the food pantries or the senior centers to do programs too.  There was discussion about the laptops that the library currently has, all of which need to be cleaned up so they are useable again.  There are plans to do that so we can have additional computers.  Joy said that it was a hard decision awarding grants as there were 28 applications so we should be proud that we got it.

**Unfinished Business**

         **Cross County Quorum Court Library Funding –** John Paul presented the Trustees with the response he received from the State Attorney General’s office concerning the ordinance that the Quorum Court used to say it was illegal for the County to pay for library utilities.  Julie Chavis, Assistant Attorney General said “I have reviewed the ordinance, and I don’t see any provision in it that prevents the quorum court from providing additional funding to the library.” John Paul has asked to be on the agenda at the next Finance Committee meeting to present this information to Lynn Blake, Kevin Jumper, and Sharon Lawson, and ask them to please put the library utilities back in the budget on April 1st and keep the grant money.  This is out of courtesy, rather than going before the entire Quorum Court.  If needed, that will be the next step.  The trustees agreed that this was the best option.

         **Big Green Switch project –** Joy started the conversation by saying that John Paul’s presentation to the community on the matter was very good and she enjoyed the positivity surrounding the conversation.  She felt at this point that the library is in a black hole with fundraising because we are waiting for the Quorum Court to make their decision.  Joy asked George Anne what the Friends of the Library decided.  George Anne read a letter that she had started working on.  It mentioned two options – expanding the current building or moving to Front Street.  She said she put both options because we really don’t know what the Quorum Court is going to say.  After they make their decision, the letter can be re-formulated.  Discussion was raised about the brochure sent out in support of The Progressive Club renovation.  George Anne said it was a great idea and they beat the library to the punch.  John Paul pointed out that as a result of the feasibility study, we know exactly what the best decision is – moving downtown.  Jerry said that the Trustees need to move forward with fundraising.  The Board needs to meet with the Friends of the Library and move forward with the campaign.  A June 1st deadline was set.  There’s a chance that work will be started on the Downtown Square before that time.  Kitty brought up that the City Council had tabled the matter for six months. John Paul explained that this move was pushed by Alderman Jim Huff recommended that they delay their decision to keep them from dropping the idea all together, and the Library Board needed to take action.  Marketing was also discussed.   Kevin Duke was brought up.  John Paul mentioned a business in Searcy that helped with marketing for their sales tax initiative.  Jerry’s East Lab students were also mentioned.  He said they could probably do it.  There was a consensus that our marketing brochure needs to be slick and involve color.    
  
Joy asked if there were other items to be discussed regarding the Switch project. John Paul explained that Martin Smith has purchased The Little Village building from Downtown Revitalization.  When he is finished with the renovation, the building price will increase from $10,000 to that plus what demolition and renovation work he puts into the building.  It is not certain that the renovations he is planning will fit into the future library floor plan. It is being renovated for a bicycle shop operated by the Wynne Schools East Lab program. He has said he would sell the building to the library once it was ready to begin work. Joy said that instead of the price going up, the library is paying Martin to do some of the work the contractor would be doing.  The trustees need to be firm that Martin did not purchase the building in order to make a profit off of it.  When it’s time he will sell it to the library for the amount he has put into it.  George Anne said it will look good to keep the project in the community.  To wrap up the discussion, John Paul confirmed that the trustees had set a goal to hopefully have a decision from the Quorum Court by the April meeting and start campaigning June 1st with brochures, newspaper and radio ads, and facebook posts.  The Trustees also planned to meet with the Friends of the Library Board to plan the campaign.

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**Trustee Comment Period:  N/A**

**Adjournment:** Kitty moved to adjourn the meeting.  Jerry seconded the motion.  All aye, motion carried.  Meeting was adjourned at 5:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Miller, MLIS

Deputy Director