

# GREENSBORO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, February 20, 2017  
4:00 p.m.

## MINUTES

*Greensboro Public Library - Central Branch  
219 North Church Street – Hemphill Board Room  
Greensboro, NC 27401*

### MEMBERS ATTENDING

(Voting)

### STAFF

### ABSENT

### LIAISON

1	<b>Sandra Cramer, Vice Chair</b>	Brigitte Blanton (via phone)	Carolyn Chappell	Kay Cashion
2	Ivan Cutler	Dena Keesee	Trudy Atkins	
3	Cham Edmiston		Netta Cox	
4	Mary Espinola		Penny Smith	
5	Bill Finley			
6	Viola Fuller			
7	Willie Taylor			
8	Amanda Wils			

### **CALL TO ORDER**

- Sandra Cramer, Vice Chair, called meeting to order at 4:00pm.
- Vice Chair called for approval of January 20, 2017 Minutes with one addition under “New Business” as discussed. Motion to approve with change made by Willie Taylor, seconded by Viola Fuller.

### **CHAIR REPORT**

- Absent – No Report.
- Chair was going to review Board Survey results (will put on March Meeting Agenda).

### **DIRECTOR REPORT**

- City Council had a Valentine’s Day Retreat in which they discussed the following goals: Economic Development, Infrastructure, Public Safety, Customer Service, Small Business, Jobs and Careers. Ivan will discuss with you during Advocacy, this year, based on the North Carolina Public Library Director’s Association, there will be an increase in the funding level of State Aid. Advocacy will be asked by the NCPLDA to step up and speak with our State Legislators. As you know, there has not been a significant increase in State Aid pre-2008.
- Director shared good news with the Board. In that she had spent the last few days in Washington, DC at the Urban Library Council conference regarding “digital inclusion”. There were approximately 15/20 directors present. Rashad Young, Chief Administrator for the District spoke to our group on Friday. Rashad credits Greensboro with his knowledge of libraries, how critical they are to the community and how they tie into MAP goals. He charged the group to tell our story with qualitative data. This aligns perfectly with what others are saying is the best way to tell the story about libraries. Rashad stated that we need to be participatory (don’t sit on the sidelines). This is the model we need to look at going forward.
- The budget has been submitted to City Council. Libraries requested a service enhancement to our book system related to the conveyor. It has not been denied. It may be viewed as a capital improvement.
- There was an inquiry regarding the status of paving the Vance Chavis parking lot and the need for brighter lights on the exterior. Director will follow-up on both.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Friends of the Greensboro Public Library – Bill Finley**

- Report attached.
- Presented roster of events at January meeting
  - February 22 – Booklover’s Social
  - April 1 – Earth Day
  - April 6 – Annual Meeting
  - April 6-8 – Spring Book Sale
  - June 8 – Annual Luncheon
  - Friends will participate in 2017 One City, One Book and a number of Author events such as Diane Chamberlain’s author presentation on January 28.
- Inquiry was made as to whether there has been any change in the current status of books?
  - We are down to the last 8 boxes. Might be able to take donations over the next 2 weeks. It is hard to predict. I will keep you informed.

### **Advocacy – Ivan Cutler**

- Report attached.
- April 4-6 is National Library week. We will be presenting at a local and statewide level. There is \$7M to be dispersed on a pro-rata share. I will distribute an email with details. It is important to invite our elected officials to a Day in the District (John Faircloth, Trudy Wade). Invite legislators to some event at the Library. I will email the list to Dena. The Library is key to Economic Development. A Day in the District is scheduled for a Friday, Saturday, and Monday morning beginning March 24<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with High Point Library.
- High Point will showcase a Day in District by hosting a lunch with dessert to follow at the Glenn McNairy Branch. Both locations will expose them to the needs of the community. They will have a hands-on experience at the McNairy Branch. More details will be forthcoming.

### **Historical Museum – Cham Edmiston**

- Report attached.
- The goal is to engage the community as a whole this year; attempt to give everyone an opportunity to participate.
- The Museum Shop will be moved to the first floor main entrance, hopefully by the end of June, first of July.
  - Inquiry was made as to whether the shop would be closed during the move. Additionally there was discussion regarding the removal of the antique car that currently on display in the lobby.
- There will be a transition period. The Shop is being moved because the Museum needs additional space. A history lab will be put in the space currently occupied by the Shop. The antique car will continue to be owned by GHM. However, GHM would like to loan the car to another museum that can put it on display.
- Mention was made of the collaboration/partnership between the Museum and Blandwood to swap historic pianos that are significant to each location.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

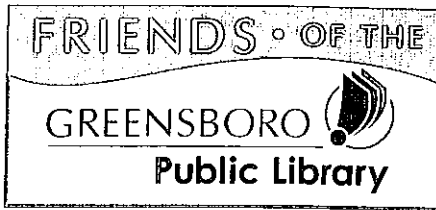
- Discussion took place regarding frequency of programs being promoted in the newspaper about other libraries and whether any consideration had been given to identifying GPL programs that might be promoted. Mention was made that GPL uses various social media outlets/publications to promote monthly calendar of events (example: the Booklover’s Social scheduled for Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>). However, it is currently unclear as to how publications choose which programs they promote. After much discussion on the topic, it was decided that if a Board member had specific contacts/relationships with newspaper personnel, etc, they should provide that information in order for GPL to make contact and possibly get our programs promoted. There was further discussion that Board members should invite their elected officials to accompany them to a specific event at the Library (personal participation). Library Director, Brigitte Blanton will also follow-up with the

City Communications Department to see if there are other opportunities to get more publicity with the local papers and media outlets.

- A request was made regarding whether a date has been set for the City Council/County Commissioners breakfast. It was noted that a new strategy is being considered for 2017; more information will be forthcoming.
- A request was made regarding the Children's Spring Calendar of Events (March, April, May) as to whether it could be sent out to organization such as Gateway due to the inclusion of the statement, "all abilities welcome." The Board was informed that the publication is available electronically and can be sent to schools through their "Peachjar" website.
- Discussion took place regarding some of the Horizon messages that are displayed when trying to check out books. It was explained that the system was recently updated to not accept payment for fines/fees via credit card and the messages may have gotten updated/changed during that transition. It was recommended that anyone receiving unprofessional messages should contact Library staff so that it can be addressed at once. However, the system messages will be checked.
- A request was made as to whether the McNairy Branch will participate in the magazine recycling program. It was noted that these types of programs were taken into consideration when the Branch was built. It wasn't identified as a priority by the advisory committee; therefore, the design and furnishing does not accommodate this service.
- There was mention that books at the juvenile detention center can now be taken into the children's cells and additional books are needed for the center.
- An online discussion group for YA (an extension of the YAA book group) has been launched by a McGirt staff member.

Vice Chair called for adjournment. Motion to adjourn by Mary Espinola, seconded by Amanda Wils.

Meeting adjourned: 5:10pm



Board of Trustees Meeting  
Monday, February 20, 2017

### ***Friends of the Library Committee Report***

The Friends of the Greensboro Public Library are gearing up for upcoming events in 2017.

- Meetings have already been held to coordinate the various jobs for the Friends' Spring Book Sale on April 6-8. Dan Acker, the Coordinator of Volunteers for Friends' activities, has performed his usual fine job in lining up volunteers for the setup, the sale itself, and the cleanup after the sale. Year-round volunteers for book donation processing have been busy boxing up books for the upcoming sale. (Donations have been so steady that we are almost out of space in our storage area!)
- The Friends will also be participating in Wednesday's Booklover's Social at the Central Library. Plans are also being finalized for a Friends presence at Earth Day on April 1.
- The number of new members joining the Friends of the Greensboro Public Library has been encouraging. The expectation is that other new members will join as this year progresses, adding both financial support and new volunteers for the Friends' participation in Library events.

*Bill Finley*

*President, Friends of the Greensboro Public Library*



# Greensboro Public Library

Board of Trustees Meeting  
Monday, February 20, 2017

## *Advocacy Committee Report*

- Met with Director to coordinate efforts to alert General Assembly on increasing funding to libraries across the State.
- Draft letter for Trustees to invite their elected official to accompany them to a Branch.

*Ivan S. Cutler*  
*Chair, Advocacy Committee*



## ***Greensboro History Museum 2/20/2017 Committee Report***

### **Several Recent Museum Events of note:**

- January 28: The Museum's Lunar New Year program had about 60 participants. It was a family-oriented program with several craft and learning activities in the Museum lobby: 3D cuttings of the word "spring" in Chinese; dragon masks, rooster themed lanterns etc. We were particularly happy to have the participation of several members of Greensboro's Asian American community sharing their cultural traditions.
- February 11, 1:00 – 4:00pm: **Lifted Voices** with costumed actors portraying people from local African American history. It was very well received, with favorable articles in the News & Record and also covered by WFMY TV.
- Construction of a new gallery space, the Bridgeway Gallery, on the mezzanine level has been completed. The Dolley display, previously located in the area, has moved to a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor case outside the large changing gallery. This new display will eventually house up to 30 of the Murphy Gallery rifles along with an exhibit exploring, "What does this mean to you?"
- Elise Allison provided WFMY with scanned images and access to printed materials for a piece about the Plantation Supper Club, which was to air on February 7.

### **Upcoming Museum Events:**

- February 26: Closing day of our *I Want the Wide American Earth/Generations* exhibit. There will be festive activities and a *Community Conversation* at 3:00pm in the auditorium with participants of our Asian Pacific American video history project.
- March 8: International Women's Day Lunch & Learn with Gayle Fripp talking about women marching through time.
- Mid-March: With the closing of the Wide American Earth exhibit, we will re-open the Murphy Gallery for 2-3 months before it is closed permanently.
- March 14: Guilford Courthouse National Military Park 2017 Revolutionary Lecture Series – Dr. Robert Smith, Assistant Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences of Northampton Community College in PA will present, *Equipping the Southern Army*. Guests will also be some of the first to see the recently conserved cap worn by Colonel Arthur Forbes, who was mortally wounded in the March 1781 battle.
- March 18: Greensboro Women Making Herstory: Costumed interpreters will be portraying women from Greensboro's history, part of our acknowledgement of March as Women's History Month.

**Trustee News:**

- Two Board meetings have taking place since the GPL Board of Trustees last met. Both meetings took place at the Museum and we took advantage of the secured location to show, for the first time, the recently conserved Forbis Liberty Cap, several other items that need conservation and took a tour of the new gallery (described above).
- The Shop Committee met on February 8. Plans to relocate the Museum shop to the main lobby are progressing, with an ambitious goal of completing the move by July 1.
- Annual financial audit, again by Gilliam, Coble & Moser, began recently.
- This week, the Board unanimously approved a piano swap with Preservation Greensboro for the Blandwood Estate. It was discovered late last year that GHM, Inc. owned a Loud & Brothers piano that was once owned by John Motley Morehead and most likely housed at Blandwood. Inside the piano was an inscription “Ann M” that we believe was written by Ann Morehead, John’s daughter. GHM, Inc. agreed with Preservation Greensboro that this piano, which is in need of restoration, belongs in its former home at Blandwood. In exchange Preservation Greensboro has agreed to transfer title of an early-mid 19<sup>th</sup> century piano made by Nunns Clark & Co. with Greensboro ties to GHM, Inc. This piano was restored in 1986, is in exhibit condition and will move to the Museum after restoration of the Loud & Brothers piano has been completed.
- Carol Hart presented to the Trustees the favorable findings from a Visitor Survey completed last year by the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH). We hope to use data from this survey to aid in our marketing efforts and strategic planning.
- GHM’s Collections Committee selected several “Adopt-an-Object” pieces this week for our 2017 program. As you might know, Adopt-an-Object Program was launched in 2012. It raises public awareness of the Museum’s diverse collections and encourages funding for the conservation, stabilization and preservation of specific objects. Every piece selected in this program since 2012 has been “adopted” and fully funded except one...a Southern Railroad Passenger Train Mural, selected in 2014. That item has been partially funded (about \$15k) with an add’l \$10-11K needed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cham Edmiston*

*GHM Inc. President*

# February 2017

## Monthly Highlights

### BENJAMIN BRANCH

- In celebration of **African American History Month**, on Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> 18 youngsters enjoyed a slideshow featuring artwork by many African Americans both past and present. Our Branch Librarian presented the show and discussed the style of art (figurative, abstract and realistic). The children created their own art using pastels with encouragement to think about style and subject.
- A visit to the **Greensboro Historical Museum** with 55 children and parents was the outreach field trip special for February. After a storytime in the auditorium about cars and buses, children and parents gathered in the lobby to admire the old fashioned car on display before heading up to the **Gate City exhibit**. There they enjoyed wandering through an old fashioned school room, an old fashioned movie theatre showing a short clip of firefighters, admired another old car and an old fire engine. Parents and children alike were very complimentary of the entire experience.

### CENTRAL BRANCH - CHILDREN'S ROOM

- Attendance at **Central's Storytime** continues to grow. February attendance for stories and songs was over 500. Teens are also enjoying the programming, with regulars attending our **Comic Club and Gamers** afternoons.

### GLENN McNAIRY BRANCH

- The first meeting of our new book club, **All Books Considered**, took place on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. We had a great conversation and chose our first official book club read: *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah. We are all looking forward to our discussion in March! We hope to offer something different than the other book clubs here at McNairy by meeting in the afternoon and having a more general scope rather than just genre fiction.
- In February, 25 children and adults attended our **Black History Month Celebration** which combined stories, history, activities, and music. We read *Freedom in Congo Square* by Carole Boston Weatherford, made a musical instrument, and listened to selections from the Smithsonian's website for children about the history and significance of jazz. Finally, our children's specialist and a program's assistant took turns reading *Follow the Drinking Gourd*; then, our talented staff gave a moving performance of the song for the group.
- We presented Valentine themed display, **Blind Date with a Book**, from which folks could check out wrapped books, take them home, and find out what was selected. This was a great way to introduce teens and adults to new authors. Patrons were excited to be surprised by their titles and enjoyed the display.

### GLENWOOD BRANCH

- Glenwood's Branch Librarian hosted an **Anti-Valentine's Day Party** on February 12<sup>th</sup>. It was so much fun. The 10 attendees spent the hour listening to Anti-Valentine's Playlist, coming up with Anti-Valentine's conversation to put on cookies, broken hearts, and more. She taught the kids to finger sew on dolls and Grumpy Cats.
- Glenwood's Branch Librarian hosted **Candy Chemistry** for 9-13 year-olds on Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> with 18 attendees. It was certainly a popular program, and better attended for this age group rather than teens. Kids left learning more about chemistry and enjoying some tasty candy as well.

### KATHLEEN CLAY EDWARDS BRANCH

- The Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Library was a partner in a collaboration with **Parks and Recreation, Field Operations, the Planning Department, Greensboro Beautiful, Piedmont Land Conservancy** and a non-profit **Urban Offsets** to plant 100 trees in **Price Park** on February 25<sup>th</sup>. The trees were funded by **Elon University** and volunteers were from the library programs, the community, and Elon University. On February 27<sup>th</sup>, **Tim Buckley, WFMY-News 2 Meteorologist** provided a program about Exciting Weather for families at Kathleen Clay. Families enjoyed the program and also learned hints about how to stay safe from lightning.



- The Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch Library celebrated **African-American History Month** with a Saturday afternoon program called **Art and Jazz in the Afternoon**. Children (and their parents) had fun listening to pieces by famous African- American jazz artists and creating art based on how it made them feel. They also made collages in the style of Charlotte, NC-born artist **Romare Bearden**.

### **HEMPHILL BRANCH**

- A **Valentine makerspace** was set up in the Hemphill Art Studio. Colored paper, stickers, and other art supplies were provided. Library patrons were invited to make **Valentine cards for local senior citizens**. Participants brought their cards to the desk and received some candy as a reward. A total of 92 cards were made and delivered to the **Wellington Oaks facility**.

### **CENTRAL BRANCH - INFORMATION SERVICES**

- The Library's Business/Non-profit Specialist continued the successful **Small Business Brown Bag and Non-profit Grant Writing Classes** on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays of the month.
- Several Information Services staff attended the **Latino Community Coalition of Guilford's** meeting on February 22<sup>nd</sup> where we heard from attorney and **immigration law specialist Jeremy McKinney** on the potential effect of recent Executive Orders on immigrant families in our community.

### **McGIRT-HORTON BRANCH**

- On February 6<sup>th</sup>, **Aycock Middle School** held an evening report card distribution session for neighborhood parents at McGirt-Horton Branch. Approximately 65 parents and students met with teachers, assistant principals, and other school staff; and had a chance to check on student's school work progress. Library staff and school staff also had an opportunity to collaborate on how the library can further assist students. As a result, the teen librarian prepared a resource guide on the **History of the Negro League** for one of the teachers.

### **GREENSBORO HISTORICAL MUSEUM & DAVID CALDWELL HISTORICAL PARK**

- ***I Want the Wide American Earth***, the Smithsonian Institution's Traveling Exhibition, along with ***Generations*** the story of Greensboro's Asian Pacific American Families, closed on February 26<sup>th</sup>. The Museum had a celebration with family activities and a ***Community Conversation*** program where several of the Asian American community members interviewed in the exhibition discussed their experiences.
- ***Lifted Voices: African Americans*** living history program on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> was well attended, with a number of community groups, including **Jack & Jill** and the **YMCA of Cleveland County Achievers** coming (21 people) as a result of the publicity received in the Thursday **GoTriad** section of the News & Record. One family came to see the actor portraying their relative, Isaiah Enochs, a 1940s mill worker, and brought photographs that are now in our collection.

### **CENTRAL BRANCH - POPULAR LIBRARY**

- Central Library hosted the **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Booklovers Social** on Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. The program featured **Quinn Dalton**, author of ***Midnight Bowling***. Bibliophiles from both new and well-established book clubs connected with fellow booklovers. Seventy-one participants voted for their favorite books of 2016, as well as books to read for 2017. It was a fun evening.

### **VANCE CHAVIS BRANCH**

- On February 24<sup>th</sup> at the **Guilford Middle Media Center**, two staff members presented a workshop for the **Guilford Parent Academy** called "Kids Who Don't Like Reading-Tips for Parents." The program had 10 parents in attendance and the parents asked several questions. According to their survey responses, they were pleased with our answers and the workshop as a whole.