

# GREENSBORO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Monday, September 21, 2015  
4:00 p.m.**

## MINUTES

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

**(Voting) MEMBERS ATTENDING**

**STAFF**

**ABSENT**

**LIAISON**

	<b><u>(Voting) MEMBERS ATTENDING</u></b>	<b><u>STAFF</u></b>	<b><u>ABSENT</u></b>	<b><u>LIAISON</u></b>
1	<b>Sandra Cramer, Vice Chair</b>	Brigitte Blanton	Carolyn Chappell	Kay Cashion-absent
2	<b>Donna Anderson</b>	Dena Keesee	Ivan Cutler	
3	Trudy Atkins		Penelope Smith	
4	Chris Carlson			
5	Netta Cox			
6	Mary Espinola			
7	Viola Fuller			
8	Willie Taylor			
9	Lea Williams			

***CALL TO ORDER***

- Sandra Cramer, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.

***REPORT OF VICE CHAIR – Sandra Cramer***

- Vice Chair called for approval of the August 17, 2015 Board Minutes. Minutes approved as presented.
- Vice Chair introduced new board member, Mary Espinola, appointed by City Council Member Justin Outling at the September 1, 2015 City Council Meeting.
- Mary Espinola shared that she works as a Family Specialist for the North Carolina Deaf-Blind Project in partnership with DPI (Department of Public Instruction) and ECAC (Exceptional Children’s Assistance Center). She has been an active volunteer in the schools, her church and the community, serving on boards including Family Support Network and currently, Greensboro Concert Band. Her volunteer passions are music, exceptional children and literacy.
- Library Director introduced Chris Carlson, the GHM liaison to the Board of Trustees.
- Vice Chair presented charge to Board (attached) regarding the City of Greensboro Holiday Parade Subcommittee. Netta Cox appointed as Subcommittee Chair, Ivan Cutler appointed as Subcommittee Vice Chair (in absentia). Jim Young appointed to serve on the Subcommittee on behalf of the Greensboro Public Library.

***DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Brigitte Blanton***

- Library Director shared PowerPoint presented to Community Services Council Committee on September 9, 2015 (attached): **Chavis Library & Windsor Recreation Center Joint Use Facility - What happens when two community anchors reside in one space?**
- Why a joint use facility?
- (1) City Council has charged staff with being entrepreneurial, efficient and bringing opportunities to the communities we serve; (2) The Vance Chavis Branch Library and the Windsor Community Center are located diagonally across from each other serving similar, possibly the same clientele; (3) The Vance Chavis facility (6,880 sq. ft.) is inadequate and needs renovation (building and parking) with over 123,000 visitors in FY2014-2015. Windsor needs upgrades and additional facilities; (4) Library and Parks & Recreation have a tremendous

impact on educational, recreational, wellness, and informational needs of the community. Residents rely on both facilities for services currently provided, as well as, use of community rooms to hold organizational, neighborhood association or club meetings; (5) In an effort to focus on future and growing needs of the community, a joint use facility is recommended to replace the existing two.

- Outcome of a joint use facility:
- (1) Joint use facility will allow other departments to provide services to community, such as (a) Field Operations (drop off site, compactor, recycling); (b) Finance (collections); (c) Fire (prevention and safety workshops); (d) Human Relations (kiosk for complaint review, landlord/tenant complaint review, fair housing education, general commission reviews); (e) Neighborhood Development (Homebuyers Counsel, Housing Rehabilitation presentations, landlord/tenant education programs/panel discussions, topics/concerns); (f) Code Enforcement information, etc.); (g) Police (crime stats kiosk, Public Safety corner, etc.), and (h) Water Resources (STEM programs); (2) The Rebirth of Government in the Community.

## ***COMMITTEE REPORTS***

### ***Friends of the Greensboro Public Library – Lea Williams***

- Held first Board Meeting of program year with 100% participation, 4 new Board members (2 from Book Clubs, 1 new treasurer, 1 branch advocacy representation for the McNairy Branch, who will also serve as the volunteer coordinator). The Friends program year begins in September and ends in May with the annual meeting.
- Semi-Annual Used Book Sale bookmarks and flyers were given to Board Members. Used book sale scheduled for Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> (10am-5pm) and Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> (10am – 5pm). On Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup> 501C3 nonprofit organizations are invited to select books between 9-11am. BOT members should email Lea Williams the names of nonprofits to be invited. Volunteers at the book sale will be wearing tan embossed “Friends of the Library” aprons.
- Request was made that BOT email addresses be provided to Board Members.
- Friends have a new membership pamphlet. You can join Friends for a little as \$10.00.
- A Friends membership of \$5,000 was received last year as a thank-you for the great service provided by the staff of the Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch. Recently the Friends received a \$700 membership.
- Total Friends membership increased 68% from May 2014 to September 17, 2015.

### ***Advocacy – Willie Taylor***

- Willie attended Women's Equality Day, sponsored by the Greensboro Commission on the Status of Women on August 29th. Anita Holder, Interim Police Chief for the City of Greensboro between the resignation of Chief Miller and hiring of Chief Scott, sat on the Leadership panel and commented that her leadership skills came from time spent reading and praised the Greensboro Public Library. Willie introduced herself to Ms. Holder after the meeting as a member of the Library Board of Trustees.
- Greensboro City Manager and Guilford County Manager were the speakers for the Neighborhood Congress on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> where she was in attendance. In response to a question about their working relationship, the City Manager responded that they were talking about ways to combine City and County programs/services in the future.
- Brigitte gave an update on the Interlocal Agreement. The Board will be kept informed as it progresses.
- GPL Director Brigitte Blanton stated that she would be meeting with Mary Sizemore, High Point Library Director to discuss this and other issues next week.

### ***Historical Museum – Chris Carlson***

Recent Highlights include:

- Roaring 20's Flashback event on July 11<sup>th</sup> with silent movies, free popcorn, jazz bands, swing dancers, antique cars, food trucks, and more. The Museum saw about 900 people come through.
- Dolly Madison's dress:
  - *Our State* Magazine ran a feature article about Dolly Madison's dress in the fall fashion issue (Aug, 2015)
  - Disney World is recreating Dolly's dress for its “hall of first ladies.” Museum will receive compensation as well as acknowledgement at the display.
  - Also in August, GHM participated in Warnersville's 150 year anniversary. Jon Zachman (GHM curator) gave a speech to approximately 250 attendees.

- *This is My Home Now*, GHM's documentary on the Montagnard community, won honorable mention at the Southeast Museum Council Technology Competition. Winners will be announced on October 13<sup>th</sup>. Jon Zachman will attend to receive the award, and serve as a panelist to discuss the Warnersville project.
- The Folk Festival was a tremendous success. The Montagnard Community joined with us to put on a spectacular weekend of music, dance and crafts. As part of the Fabric of Freedom, with a \$1,000 grant from Action Greensboro, the Museum received a lot of publicity through the Folk Festival, with a wonderful story in the News & Record. Over 3,200 visited inside the Museum over the two days, with at least another 2,000 contacts outside in the Family Craft area and McNairy House.
- 5 by O. Henry had six performances this year due to scheduling issues; four sold out performances, and two that were very close. A great article in Yes! Weekly helped with sales.

Coming Up in October:

- One City, One Book event, A Walk into Greensboro's Past, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm. - Dr Jerry Smallwood, Professor at NC A&T.
- Lots of activity for Halloween - Graveyard tours, ghost stories, etc. - October 24<sup>th</sup>
- Holidays – lots of activity to report at next meeting. We will focus on the shop for the holiday season.

Longer-term goals:

- Moving beyond event marketing to general brand marketing that will position the Museum as relevant to a larger segment of the community, and appeal to a younger, more diverse membership.

***OLD BUSINESS***

None.

***NEW BUSINESS***

- Surprised there are no videos or DVDs on domestic violence in the library.
- We will have someone look into.
- It is interesting how many DVDs can be found by Advance Search, listened to in Spanish, etc.
- Library staff/volunteers participated in the National Folk Festival through Arts Greensboro with a craft table. Arts Greensboro reimbursed the library for all items/supplies purchased in relation to the Festival.
- Excited to be on the Board of Trustees. There has been talk about diversity, but haven't seen anything in publications regarding disabilities.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.