



GREENSBORO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Monday, June 21, 2021
4:00pm**

MINUTES

Zoom Virtual Meeting

*FINAL:
Approved
Aug. 16, 2021*

	<u>ATTENDING</u> (Voting)	<u>ABSENT</u> (Voting)	<u>STAFF</u> (Non-voting)	<u>LIAISON</u> (Non-voting)
1	BENNETT, JAMES	BYNUM, MONIQUE	BLANTON, BRIGITTE	WELLS, GOLDIE - GSO CC
2	CLIFTON, CAROLYN	PARKER, APRIL	KEESE, DENA	CASHION, KAY - GCC (Absent)
3	CREAN, BRIAN			
4	DOLIN, ARLENE			
5	DONNELL, FELITA			
6	ESPINOLA, MARY			
7	FRIPP, GAYLE HICKS			
8	HANLIN, TIMOTHY			
9	PEARSON, MICHAEL			

(9) Present

(2) Absent

CALL TO ORDER and APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ❖ Meeting called to order at 4:03pm.
- ❖ Chair called for approval of May 17, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion to approve by James Bennett, seconded by Brian Crean. Unanimously approved by the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

- ❖ Nominating Committee (Arlene Dolin and Felita Donnell) nominated Michael Pearson to be the new Board Chair and Brian Crean to be the new Vice Chair. Motion to accept the nominations by James Bennett, seconded by Arlene Dolin. Unanimously approved by the Board.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- ❖ "There, There" by Tommy Orange was the community's number one choice for this year's One City, One Book. Programs and discussion themes around the book are in process. The Greensboro Public Library Foundation has approved an appearance by the author.
- ❖ Programs are also being planned around the two other most popular books: "My Vanishing Country" by Bakari Sellers and "What Unites Us" by Dan Rather.
- ❖ City of Greensboro's 2021-2022 budget was passed by City Council on June 15, 2021.
- ❖ Guilford County has presented a 5 year Interlocal Agreement with the City of Greensboro wherein the Greensboro Public Library would receive \$1,468,000 the first fiscal year. The County will provide funding on a \$5.00/per capita basis. In addition, the County will make capital funding available to the City of Greensboro.
- ❖ Greensboro Public Libraries and Greensboro History Museum will continue to require masks for staff and customers in all our facilities per City of Greensboro guidelines. No in-person programming has been scheduled at this time.

- ❖ Juneteenth in-person and virtual programs were a big success. The City's Interim City Manager gave kudos to Creative Greensboro, the Greensboro Public Library, and the Greensboro History Museum for the quality and availability of programming.
- ❖ Parks & Recreation along with a team of Library staff members met with Greensboro Housing Authority for the purpose of "Out-reach to In-reach" to discuss community resources and programs for Smith Homes residents.

HISTORY MUSEUM REPORT (Gayle Hicks Fripp)

- ❖ "Pieces of Now: Murals, Masks, Community Stories & Conversations" exhibit was selected by the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) for two National Awards: Award of Excellence and History in Progress. This exhibit has gained a lot of national attention. The exhibit will be open until September 19, 2021, tours are still being offered virtually.
- ❖ A new exhibit, North Carolina Democracy, will replace the Pieces of Now exhibit

CHAIR'S REPORT

- ❖ Chair encouraged Board members to check out Juneteenth series of events that took place Saturday, June 19, available on the City's [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube channel](#). Chair suggested emailing the links to family and friends.
- ❖ No meeting will be held in July.

There being no other business, motion made by Felita Donnell, seconded by Brian Crean, to conclude the meeting.

Meeting adjourned 4:26pm.

BENJAMIN BRANCH

- Benjamin Branch Youth Librarian created a **Reading with Pride** video highlighting young adult novels that featured positive and affirming LGBTQ characters in honor of Pride Month. It was selected to run on the screens at the Central Library and was also posted on the Library's Facebook page. Views on LGBTQ Pride video: 7 Views and 7 Engagements on Facebook. No way to get views from the foot traffic/screens at Central.
- A Virtual Visit to **Lake Higgins** was presented to online viewers in late June by the Benjamin Branch Youth Librarian in collaboration with Jennifer Phelps, Lake Activity Specialist, from the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department. In this onsite video, viewers learn what kind of animals can be found around, above and within Lake Higgins. Views on Lake Higgins: 8 Facebook views and 13 engagements; 8 views on YouTube; 5 Views and 4 additional engagements from Instagram.
- Benjamin Branch Youth Librarian created a short tutorial video for staff that explained how to use **BeanStack**. BeanStack is the program the Library is using for customers to keep up with Summer Reading challenges, log books that have been read, and where participants can receive their Summer Reading badges. This video was shared with all the Managers to be shared with staff so they would be prepared to both use the BeanStack program and also be equipped to help customers use the program themselves.

CENTRAL BRANCH - ADULT PROGRAMMING

- **Soul Food Looks Back: A Juneteenth Culinary Conversation** with celebrity chef **Carla Hall** and educator, author, and culinary historian **Dr. Jessica B. Harris** aired as part of the City of Greensboro's online Juneteenth Celebration. The pre-recorded session explored what is Soul Food, where did it come from, and how are African-Americans represented in the culinary industry and aired on the City's Facebook channel. The video is available on our [Greensboro Public Library YouTube Channel](#). It had 202 unique views.

CENTRAL BRANCH - CIRCULATION & CHILDREN'S ROOM

- **Story time** in LeBauer Park on July 24 had 80 people in attendance. This is a 67% increase from the previous week.
- A customer found a lost book and wanted to pay her fine. After explaining we are a fine free library system and lost fees are removed during check-in, the customer shouted we were the best Library ever.

CENTRAL BRANCH - INFORMATION SERVICES

- Members of the Information Services team contributed the following to the City's virtual Juneteenth event: **Recording Councilperson Hightower** as she read the proclamation making **Juneteenth** an official City holiday, special recording on researching **African-American Genealogy**, and a re-airing of an earlier Information Services led program, **Exclusion by Design: From Redlining to Gentrification**, garnering 822 views on GPL and GHM Facebook, YouTube, and the COG website.

GLENN MCNAIRY BRANCH

- The Glenn McNairy Youth Librarian hosted **Gather in the Garden**, a two-session outdoor **Chalk Animal** drawing program in the garden behind Glenn McNairy Library and onto the sidewalk surrounding the building. Sixty-five attendees enjoyed time outside, distancing and drawing, and reading the story walk as they went to and from the program.
- The three-part **Ageing Well** series with **Age Coach Cheryl Greenberg**, hosted in partnership with the Glenn McNairy Branch Manager had 26 attendees. Viewers learned about brain health, creative socialization, and tips for caregivers and future planning.

GLENWOOD BRANCH

- Glenwood's Youth Librarian had a successful virtual **Zoo Friends Yoga Story time** with special guest **Tabitha Southard** on Monday, June 28. There were 28 in attendance with two daycare classrooms in attendance. Children had so much fun doing the yoga poses and taking a pretend walk through the zoo.
- Glenwood's Youth Librarian also made 527 activity kits for distribution at all the Branches. Some of the kits included Watercolors, Straw Shooters Jets, Preschool Color Matching, Pokémon Crafts, Create-A-Critter, and Paper Airplane Origami to name a few.

HEMPHILL BRANCH

- The first in the **Sizzling Summer African-American Author series** was on Saturday, June 26. La Jill Hunt, popular urban chick lit author, was featured. There were 13 participants and we all enjoyed talking with her. She was extremely personable and the program was 1 1/2 hours due to the enthusiasm of the author and audience. Author programs are usually 45 minutes to an hour including the Q&A. The next in the series is on Saturday, July 24 at 2:00pm with Vanessa Riley, one of the most popular African-American historical romances.

HISTORY MUSEUM

- The Greensboro History Museum's exhibition *Pieces of Now: Murals, Masks, Community Stories and Conversations* has been selected by the American Association for State and Local History for two awards, an **Award of Excellence** plus a **History in Progress Award**. According to the AASLH, these awards represent the most prestigious recognition for achievement in the preservation and interpretation of state and local history. The History in Progress Award is an additional honor bestowed on an Award of Excellence winner whose nomination is highly inspirational, exhibits exceptional scholarship, and/or is exceedingly entrepreneurial in terms of funding, partnerships, or collaborations, creative problem solving, or unusual project design and inclusiveness. Only two projects received the national History in Progress distinction this year. The awards will be presented at the annual AASLH Conference on September 24 in Little Rock AR.
- On Saturday, June 5 (4pm -8 pm), the Museum presented "**Reflections on Pieces of Now: A History Happening**" in Mary Lynn Richardson Park at the corner of Lindsay and Church Streets. This event was a collaboration with **Haus of Lacks** and the **Collective GSO**, and celebrated artists, teachers and activists while reflecting on changes in the City over the past year and persistent systemic racial disparities nationwide. The afternoon's performers include Brandon Green, Chasyn Sparx, Atticus Lane, DJ Mac DaVille, DJ Dlinkwent and others. An ice cream truck, art interactives, family activities, vendors and information tables were all part of the experience. About 400 people participated.
- For Juneteenth, the Museum contributed several programs to the City's online "**Day of Celebration and Remembrance**" -- organized by GHM, GPL, Creative Greensboro and Parks & Rec -- including "God with Us," "Juneteenth & the Divine 9," "Redefining Success," "Juneteenth Bingo" and five parts of a Juneteenth rap cypher filmed in *Pieces of Now*. A **Juneteenth Green Book Bike Tour** in partnership with **Bicycling in Greensboro** saw more than 50 riders learning about "**The Negro Motorist Green Book**" and stopping at the locations of Black businesses listed in the guide between the 1930s and 1960s, including the **Historic Magnolia House**.

KATHLEEN CLAY EDWARDS BRANCH

- On June 10, Kathleen Clay Edwards Branch facilitated an outdoor socially distanced **watercolor class** for 19 attendees. It was going to be held on the lawn, however rain caused the group to move under the picnic shelter. The rain turned out to be a really great backdrop as the gentle rain and frogs created an atmosphere for the participants' artistic endeavors! People were from all age groups and enjoyed showing off their work to the instructor and one another.

McGIRT-HORTON BRANCH

- The McGirt-Horton Branch Youth Services Librarian worked with the YSL at the Benjamin Branch to create a Summer Reading Commercial. The video featured all the YSLs and the Youth Services Coordinator and highlighted the **Summer Fun!** program, as well as gave a rundown of Youth programming. Additionally, the Branch saw distribution of 40 watercolor paint take-and-make kits, and 108 registrations for Summer Reading through Beanstack. So far, the commercial has had a total of 28 1-minute views.

VANCE CHAVIS BRANCH

- The month of June saw Chavis staff connecting families to resources in recognition of **LGBTQ+ Pride Month**. A display of literature curated by Chavis staff was the centerpiece of these conversations and served to connect several customers with both literature and community information.
- In addition, our Youth Services Librarian collaborated with fellow Chavis staff to produce "**Destination Niger**". This video - which aired via the Library's Facebook page - highlighted the culture and customs of the West African nation was well received and sparked conversation about the Muslim faith. The video had 20 views on Facebook & YouTube.