

# **LADY LAKE LIBRARY BOARD**

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF July 12, 2012**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Page at 4:00P.M.

Members present: James Page, Dorothy Grubb, Jean Ganske, Whitney Stokes, Lily Kliot, Rev. Paul Harsh and Linda Underhill. Library Director Marilynn Nesbitt, William (Bill) Stokes, Representative to the County Library Advisory Board and Ruth Kussard, Lady Lake Town Commission Liaison were also present.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the May meeting were accepted as published. Dorothy Grubb made a motion to accept the minutes and Jean Ganske seconded the motion. There was no meeting in the month of June.

**Report by Chair:** James Page shared some cartoons for the library. He mentioned that Orlando has ended its reciprocal borrowing agreement with all its regional libraries including those in Lake County.

**Report by Town Commission Liaison, Ruth Kussard:** There was a Lady Lake Budget Workshop today. There will be no increases in the Lady Lake property taxes or the fire service in The Villages. We do not know what will happen with the Lake County taxes. Presently Lake County's budget is in the red.

**Report by Lake County Library Advisory Board Representative:** Bill Stokes related two topics that were introduced at the June 21 meeting in Mount Dora that may affect Lady Lake Library. The first was the possibility of placing tourist information kiosks in libraries. Commissioner Welton Caldwell said that he will approach the Tourist Development Council about obtaining information on a kiosk website and report at a future meeting. Also pending is a formal arrangement to partner libraries with schools. It was suggested that Youth Coordinator Linda Goff be invited to report on the activity between Lake County Schools and the Lake County Library Advisory Board at a future Advisory Board meeting.

### **Report by Library Director, Marilynn Nesbitt:**

Marilynn shared a copy of the Proposed Lady Lake Library Budget for next year. Every part of the budget was approved but it will need to go before two more meetings before it is officially approved. She wanted a half time position to help cover the lunch hours, but the position was taken out of the budget before it came before the Lady Lake Commission. There are now two excellent volunteers during the lunch hour who are helping to relieve the staff. Library employees were given a 2% raise. The Operating Expenditures were increased by 9.89% to provide new software and meet the expenses of cleaning the second floor. The book budget was increased by \$3,000 to provide more e-books for patrons. The overall budget was a 3.35% change from the FY2012 budget.

Marilynn handed out an article entitled, "E-book popularity strains library budget", an article by Bill Thompson from Ocala.com on July 10, 2012. There are major publishing houses that do not want to sell e-books to public libraries or allow libraries to lend their digitized titles. Other publishers increase prices of newly released e-books, making them too expensive to buy. HarperCollins issued a policy in 2011 that said libraries must repurchase an e-book, at a discount, after it is borrowed 26 times. The booksellers are concerned with loss of revenue when lending or selling e-books to libraries. These issues will be dealt with in the coming months and years. In the meantime, many patrons are frustrated that they cannot get certain books on their devices, especially new bestsellers. E-books are more expensive than a hard copy - \$5 to \$10 more. Similar problems

occurred when audio books and large print books were added to libraries. At first an audio book would cost as much as \$120. After a few years vendors began offering audiobooks that were read by lesser known people and as a result the price of these audio books went down to about \$30.

Marilynn is going to look into purchasing audio books from Overdrive, the library's ebook vendor. These audiobooks would cost the same as a hard copy of the book. There are more titles and bestsellers in audio book format in the Overdrive system.

The computers in the Youth building do not have sound. The youth have to connect earphones to the computers. The library sells headphones because we don't want people sharing earphones. The Friends of the Library have provided the earphones. A youth is charged \$1 for the earphones. If he/she loses them, he/she is given another for \$2. The third and last pair would be \$3.

Marilynn showed us a copy of the plaque that she is going to put up by the etched wall. It will have all the current Library Board member names and years of service. She will keep adding names as people come on the Library Board.

Marilynn mentioned the library has recently been getting some publicity in the Daily Sun as well as VNN. She showed us the informative article about the summer reading program which was in the newspaper on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

A policy has been put in place saying that 501C3 non profit groups have to pay to use the library facilities. Also, a group's use of the facilities depends on where the members of that group live.

**Old Business** – Reverend Harsh asked to revisit policies regarding books in the library with questionable, sexually explicit language and actions. This was in regard to the discussion in the May Library Board meeting concerning the book, **Fifty Shades of Grey** and the other two books in the trilogy. Marilyn explained the rationale for including the books. This issue involves moral issues, as well as the concept of censorship as it relates to libraries. How much should a library be swayed by the requests/desires of its patrons? What criteria should a library have when ordering books and materials? This is a controversial issue that will continue to plague public libraries.

Lily Klot asked to look into finding a person to do some further etching on the glass wall. The person who did the work originally is no longer available.

**New Business** – None

**The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 P.M**

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Underhill, Lady Lake Library Board Secretary