

**MINUTES OF THE  
TOWN OF LADY LAKE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE LADY LAKE LIBRARY BOARD  
LADY LAKE, FLORIDA**

**April 10, 2014  
4:00 p.m.**

The Lady Lake Library Board Meeting was held in the Town Hall Commission Chambers at 409 Fennell Blvd., Lady Lake, Florida. The meeting convened at 4:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairperson/Member Dr. Paul Harsh, Vice Chairperson/Member James Page, Member Dorothy Grubb, Member Linda Underhill, Member Kimberly Strickland, Member Dr. Lily Kliot, and Member Jean Ganske

**TOWN STAFF PRESENT:** Beth Maciejewski, Library Director; Kris Kollgaard, Town Manager; and Julia Wolfe Staff Assistant to Town Clerk

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mayor/Commissioner Ruth Kussard

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Dr. Paul Harsh called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**INVOCATION:** Reverend Jerry Montgomery, Immanuel Baptist Church

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**OPEN FORUM:** There were no comments from the audience.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 13, 2014**

*Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson/Member Page, with a second by Member Underhill, the Lady Lake Library Board approved the minutes of the March 13, 2014 meeting as presented, by a vote of 7 to 0.*

**REPORT BY CHAIR:** No report.

**REPORT BY TOWN COMMISSION LIAISON:**

Mayor Ruth Kussard asked the Board if they noticed the new chairs in the Chamber and asked how they liked them. She reported the Easter Egg Hunt will be this Saturday at the ball field by the Library from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. She stated the volunteer appreciation dinner will be held on Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at Harbor Hills and asked the Board to contact Aubrey Cash if they planned on attending.

**REPORT BY LIBRARY DIRECTOR:**

Library Director Beth Maciejewski stated she has an Easter Egg Hunt flyer the Board could look at. She reviewed and discussed the March 2014 Monthly Library report.

Chairperson Harsh noted that the library door count of 13,911 does not include e-books.

Ms. Maciejewski confirmed that it does not because a person has to physically come into the library to be part of the door count.

Member Strickland asked if there was a way to determine how many people are using the children's section verses the adult section in the library.

Ms. Maciejewski replied it is not broken down for the statistics on this report, but it is done in-house. She stated the numbers are not huge compared to what is happening in the big library.

Member Ganske asked the amount of the fee for residents not living in Lake County.

Ms. Maciejewski replied the fee is \$20.00 for six months and \$40.00 for a year.

Member Ganske commented that the Lady Lake Library has no reciprocity with any other library.

Ms. Maciejewski replied that the Lady Lake Library has reciprocity with Marion, Polk, Orange and other counties.

Member Ganske stated she meant within The Villages.

Ms. Maciejewski replied there is no reciprocity with Sumter County.

***There was further discussion by the Board regarding reciprocity.***

Ms. Ganske asked why the small library card has been discontinued.

Ms. Maciejewski replied it was discontinued a long time ago because the cards get nasty and have to be replaced frequently and that is costly.

Member Strickland asked what the cost per unit was for the little cards.

Ms. Maciejewski replied that she does not remember at this time.

Member Strickland stated she would be interested in knowing next month.

Ms. Maciejewski replied that Lake County makes the decision regarding this, not the Town.

Member Strickland stated she would like to give Lake County some feedback and thinks they would be open to it if the Board had some solid suggestions. There was an outburst by Member Strickland and she was asked to leave. As she was preparing to leave, Ms. Strickland stated she did not want to be on the Board.

Chairperson Harsh apologized to Ms. Maciejewski and stated that is not the attitude of the Board. He stated at no point should she or any member of the Board be subjected to that.

Kris Kollgaard, Town Manager, stated in light of what happened at this and last month's meeting, she was going to ask the Commission that Ms. Strickland be removed from the Board.

Chairperson Harsh asked if she needed a motion from the Board.

Ms. Kollgaard replied that would be helpful.

*Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson/Member Page and a second by Member Grubb, the Board approved the recommendation to the Town Commission that Kimberly Strickland be removed as a member of the Library Board by a vote of 6-0.*

Member Kliot stated she was not crazy about the behavior that was demonstrated, but she thinks the Board needs to recognize that they have not been particularly kind to Ms. Strickland and perhaps that attributed to today's behavior. She stated that she would not vote against the motion, but thinks the Board has to own a little bit of responsibility.

Chairperson Harsh stated he is not going to be as hard on the Board, but understands what Ms. Kliot is talking about. He stated when someone comes across as adversarial, it is easy to respond in kind. He stated he feels like he and the Board has gone above and beyond in being tolerant and encouraging.

Member Kliot asked if the library lost 40% of their patrons as it appears under the total number of registered patrons shown on the library report.

Ms. Maciejewski replied that Lake County Library System will be migrating from Symphony to another system called Koha. She stated they had all been instructed to clean up the patron list and any records that had not been used in two years were deleted.

Member Underhill stated the library had a class from the Lady Lake school last year and asked if they were doing it again this year.

Ms. Maciejewski replied that the Friends did not do it this year and she was unsure if they were still planning on it. She stated she believed they were doing two \$2,000 scholarships for Leesburg High School only because they felt like they are under-served, whereas the Villages Elementary School has different programs where scholarships are available. She stated the scholarships that had to be in by April 18<sup>th</sup> have been sent to the counselor at Leesburg High.

Member Kliot asked if there would be a recipient from Lady Lake.

Ms. Maciejewski replied that was not specified. She stated you could have a library card from Lady Lake and live in Leesburg.

Member Underhill stated they talked in the past about having volunteers go to the school and sign children up for library cards.

Ms. Maciejewski replied the new Lake County Library System called Koha is web-based and if wi-fi is available, you can sign people up for a card. She stated Lake County has a rule a child cannot get a library card without the custodial parent's signature.

Member Underhill stated perhaps they could find volunteers to do this at the school during parent/teacher conferences when the parents would be present.

Ms. Maciejewski announced she had tendered her resignation. She stated the Town will be advertising her position, and she wanted to let the Board know. She stated she would be around a little longer while the Town finds someone and will help make a smooth transition for the next person. Ms. Maciejewski stated she loved working for the Town, but this position is not for her, although it will be a great position for someone.

Chairperson Harsh stated he has enjoyed working with Ms. Maciejewski, and the other Board members agreed. He stated Ms. Maciejewski has provided a great transition and he prays she has a great next step.

**REPORT BY LAKE COUNTY LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:**

Chairperson Harsh apologized to Frank Kirschenheiter for not attending the last meeting and welcomed him as the new liaison. He also apologized for the outburst by Ms. Strickland and stated he has been on the Board for over ten years and has never seen that type of behavior before. He stated that it was not the spirit, attitude or habit of the Board that Mr. Kirschenheiter will be working with. Dr. Harsh stated he appreciated Mr. Kirschenheiter for being here and his willingness to being the point of contact with Lake County.

Vice Chairperson Page stated they used to have inter-library loans where you could obtain books by mail. He stated that was ended by Lake County due to finances and the costs involved. He stated he would like to bring it to Lake County Board's attention that should funds be available, he would appreciate them bringing back the inter-library loans.

Ms. Maciejewski replied there is a short fall in the budget, so she doubts if there will be inter-library loans this year.

Chairperson Harsh clarified that Mr. Kirschenheiter is the point of contact between the Board and Lake County. He asked if the Board members send individual things or is it what the Board determines to send to the County as a whole.

Ms. Maciejewski replied he could attend and if there is nothing to report, he could talk about upcoming programs.

Ms. Kollgaard explained the Board has to decide as a group by consensus what they would like Mr. Kirschenheiter to take to Lake County, not by an individual member.

Mr. Kirschenheiter stated any direction the Board could provide would be extremely helpful. He stated he appreciated what Mr. Page mentioned about inter-library loans because he used those extensively in Illinois. He stated they had a lot of libraries in the loan area and were able to get books very quickly. He stated he did not realize the disparity between Lady Lake and Sumter County.

**OLD BUSINESS:** No old business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Chairperson Harsh stated the library has a good children's program that is very effective. He stated survey after survey finds that we lose our kids in middle school. He stated that perhaps the Board could do some personal research and report back on an effective way of getting middle school students back in the Library.

Member Kliot stated Ms. Kollgaard gave her a very clear and good suggestion about how the Board might turn conversation and idle chit-chat into a strong recommendation.

Ms. Kollgaard stated with Ms. Maciejewski leaving, the Town will have a new Library Director coming in. She stated the Town will be advertising, and if the Board has any suggestions as to what

they are looking for in a new Librarian to please send her an e-mail; she is opened to all suggestions. She stated she would like to bring in the new Librarian and sit down with the Board and have a workshop. She stated she would like to get everything on the table to learn how to present an idea, and have a professional and reasonable discussion on it. Ms. Kollgaard stated she sees a lot of great ideas being suggested and they get sidetracked. She stated when someone has an idea, the Board should hear it out, discuss it, and someone should make a motion to look into it or a motion not to look into it. She stated it gets very confusing for staff because staff cannot take direction from one person; it has to be by a majority vote of the Board. Ms. Kollgaard stated if the Board approves, she would like to go ahead and schedule a workshop when the Town gets the new Librarian. She stated it will give the Board a chance to meet the new Librarian, ask questions, and provide the opportunity to let staff know what they would like to see on the agenda. She stated everyone has their own ideas and opinions, but it is important for the Board to work as a team and to keep personal feelings to themselves. She stated the Board's objective is to look at what is best for our library and what will serve our patrons the best.

Member Ganske stated the Board has a lot of good ideas but to get good ideas across, the Board cannot do it on the time factor they are working on; they need more time. She asked if the workshop could be at a different time.

Ms. Kollgaard replied the workshop has to be public and could be at a different time. She asked if the Board has set a time limit for their meetings.

Chairperson Harsh replied he does not believe the Board set a time; it just evolved into 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Vice Chairperson Page stated the Board generally tries to stay within the hour time limit because the members have commitments.

Chairperson Harsh stated he thinks the Board will stay focused a little better than they have been, and on task, and to understand they are not there for personal reasons, but for matters of the library. He asked that individual items be discussed with the Librarian.

Ms. Kollgaard stated Board members should contact her or the new Librarian if they have any concerns.

Ms. Klot stated the Board does not often have a lot of business at the meetings beyond approving the minutes. She asked if the Board could devote a meeting to talk about a certain topic.

Chairperson Harsh replied the Board could add a topic to the agenda under new business and it would give the members a month to do some homework and prep.

Ms. Kollgaard stated members can contact the Clerk's Office if they wish to add an item to a meeting agenda for discussion, although the Board Chairperson has to approve it before they can be added to the agenda. Then staff could e-mail the agenda, minutes and supporting information to the members the same way they do with the Commission meetings, and that way the members could come to the meeting prepared.

***There was further discussion by the Board on adding items to the agenda.***

Chairperson Harsh asked Ms. Maciejewski to write up a report, whether positive or negative, about the way the Board has addressed her. He stated anyone in leadership who has to work with a Board

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knows you are not always treated the way you want your successor to be treated. He stated any feedback would be beneficial.

***Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson/Member Page and a second by Member Grubb, the Board voted to have Library Director Beth Maciejewski give feedback focusing on her relationship with the Board by a vote of 6-0.***

Chairperson Harsh commented he has been involved in the educational system in Lake County for about 25 years and it seems like things change every other year.

***Member Kliot made a motion that the Board focus on ways to entice middle school students to make better use of the Library at the next meeting. The motion died for lack of a second.***

***With no further business or discussion, the Lady Lake Library Board meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.***

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Julia Wolfe  
Staff Assistant to Town Clerk

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Dr. Paul Harsh, Chairperson

Minutes transcribed by Julia Wolfe, Staff Assistant to Town Clerk