

Closing Public Comment -- None.

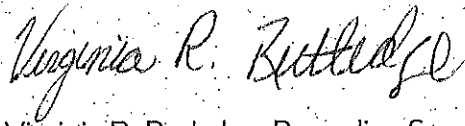
Executive Session - Not required.

Adjournment

There being no further business, on motion of Ms. Rutledge, seconded by Mr. Newbold, the meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.; motion carried unanimously.

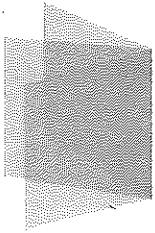
The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 25, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Attested to:



Virginia R. Rutledge, Recording Secretary

VRR/jes



WARREN COUNTY LIBRARY

April 2017 Director's Report

Update on new Building - Our floor plans have been completed, and we have selected the styles for most furniture. We were contacted by the contractor's interior design person and discovered that the location of windows has been changed because of exterior elements that exist on the building. Somehow the decision to make these changes was not conveyed to our architect (who did the original drawing) or to us. While some of the changes will not be problematic, the new location of windows in the children's area will affect our floor plan. The interior esthetics will be affected since window placement seems off balance in some rooms. (If anyone from the commission would like to look at the drawings after the meeting let me know.)

Hoopla use remains strong--last month 85 new users were added and 65 users reached their maximum use (5 uses). We have cancelled our subscription to Lynda.com. Use of the service remained low in spite of heavy promotion by the library. We had a few power users that used it extensively, but of the 354 people who registered for the service 147 never viewed any content and only 85 people used it more than 60 minutes. We may consider adding more uses per person to our Hoopla service which already has 462 registered users and 40% of them have used it in the last 30 days.

I attended NJLA in Atlantic City this week. On Tuesday evening, the Warren County Freeholders received a Library Champion Award which was presented to Freeholder Gardner.

I found this conference very energizing this year. I attended a workshop on WiFi hotspot lending programs. The idea is to provide access to the internet to people who do not have it at home. There are several different agencies that do this, such as EveryoneOn (for low income families). We had purchased a WiFi hotspot from Mobile Beacon (uses Sprint network) to test how well it worked in our county (spotty). I had applied for a grant from Mobile Beacon that would have given us laptops and mobile hotspots to lend to the public, but we did not get the grant. As part of the grant application I did research on internet access in Warren County and was surprised by the number of people who do not have the internet or have limited access (dial up). The area where service seems to be the biggest problem is the northern part of the County. I was able to talk to several people who were involved in these programs about the fact that service to areas of our county was a problem. They have my contact information and took this information back to their agencies. I did spend some time talking to a rep from T-mobile about their offer for wifi hotspots and today I ordered 5 hotspots and 10 tablets with network access. The devices are donated and we will pay \$8.20 per device for 2 gig of high speed data

(after that it is throttled down) per month. Devices will be replaced every two years by T-mobile. There is no contract for the service...we can cancel anytime. I would like to try a program that would involve a workshop to give people some basic skills using the tablet and the opportunity to then take the device home for a month, as well as a general loan program.

I attending two sessions with Valerie J. Gross, President and CEO of Howard County Library System (Library of the Year/*Library Journal* 2013). Valerie has rebranded her library and the image of what a library is by changing the language we use as librarians to put it more in line with other educational institutions. (items are in your package) This has changed how her library has been viewed in her community and how it is funded. Valerie is the author of *Transforming Our Image, Building Our Brand: The Education Advantage*.

The other workshop that piqued my interest was about a free product from Public Library Association (PLA) called Project Outcome. It is an online portal that can be used to analyze data and outcomes from services we provide (i.e., Programming). They provide basic surveys that can be customized, and libraries enter the results from the survey in the portal (including comments) and can then access statistical information that can measure the outcome of the program/service. This can help you focus your effort against your strategic plan.



Maureen Baker Wilkinson
Library Director