May 17, 2021 5:30 PM

Chairperson Gina Carroll called the meeting to order with Laura Mulvaney, Pam Potterfield, Steve Tonsor, and Karen Seward present.

Minutes of the March 15, 2021 meeting were presented by Steve Tonsor. New business of the March 15 meeting included discussion of selling certain Dr. Seuss books. Discussion of this topic carried briefly into the May meeting.

Mrs. Carroll invited Chris Ellison to present a Monthly Financial Report & Budget Analysis for 2020-2021. Ms. Ellison pointed out YTD revenues exceed projections, while expenditures are slightly less than budgeted YTD. Questions from the board or Mrs. Seward were encouraged. The board requested an additional ledger account for disbursal of funds from special grant or revenue sources, and invited Ms. Ellison’s suggestions on how the analysis might be improved. Ms. Ellison agreed to addition of said expense account and printing of analysis on the Friday prior to regularly scheduled Monday meetings.

In the librarian’s report, Mrs. Seward displayed a promotional flyer for the Tails & Tales Summer Reading Program for 2021. Friends of the Library, with the support of Macon Atlanta Bank will be responsible for the Storybook in the Park program scheduled June 12, 2021. The Missouri State Library has confirmed the Monroe City Library will soon receive an additional distribution of $2,678.57 for purposes of literacy support and/or technology advancement. These funds must be utilized prior to the end of calendar year 2021. With funding from EBSCO Books, a Technology and Resource Sharing Consultant from the Missouri State Library is building a website for the local library. Personnel training for use of the website are included. Since the March 15 meeting, Mrs. Seward reported the following activities:

312 patrons sought 577 books, 420 electronic downloads, 53 computer usages, and 14WIFI sessions.

In new business Mrs. Seward reported Clara Minor was leaving the library’s employ due to scheduling conflicts. Other high school students are being considered for part-time service. Mrs. Seward also suggested the board consider how the library should be operated with her future departure. A local tax increase might facilitate the hiring of a fulltime librarian better equipped to serve the future needs of our community. Another avenue to consider might be cooping with the Little Dixie Library Program of Moberly, Missouri. Should the Monroe City and Little Dixie boards agree to make Monroe City a satellite location, several services could potentially be upgraded. Local tax revenues would flow to Little Dixie, and Monroe City Library’s portable assets would become property of Little Dixie. In exchange, currently Little Dixie would provide professional oversite, training for local personnel, and expand materials and programs available to Monroe City patrons.

Mrs. Carroll requested suggestions for a potential board member to fill the vacancy with Emily Gares departure. Citizens residing within city limits were discussed. Candidates were to be contacted promptly.

Mrs. Carroll set the next regularly scheduled meeting for July 19 at 5:30 p.m. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Tonsor