

Smithfield Public Library Board Meeting - January 18th 2023

Attending: Karen Bowling, April Godderidge, Eric Bingham, Todd Durrant, Bill Emmett, Kathy Toolson, Marty Reeder, Wayne Campbell

Welcome Marty to the Library Board.

Mission statements are part of the recertification process now. We looked over options and selected one we like and it will be: "The mission of the Smithfield Public Library is to provide open access to a broad range of materials, programs, and services to people of all ages and backgrounds."

We also picked a Vision Statement. We selected: "To be the welcoming heart of our community where all come to learn, discover, create, and connect."

We'll look at goals and values at the next meeting. There are probably things we need to look at to be more "equal" or "equitable" to minority groups that exist in our community.

Reviewing Library Policies. We don't need to go through all, but there are some policies that need review, adjustment, and probably some new ones that are more relevant to current programs. We'll address that first. We'll look first at a programming policy and work on it together.

We're hoping to set up more current policies to set a foundation for future director. Maybe we can review how accounts are created and the associated limitations.

The Library has started surveying the public to find out what they want. They seem to want more programs, clubs, guest speakers, etc. The existing programs have already started expanding, especially with the youth. A lot is in the works. Some things will start slow, but that's okay on the path to growth.

Health Days is coming and some of the staff members want to be in the parade. Maybe the staff can set up the book sale at Forrester Acres. Can we find a truck or something to work as a float? Maybe move the book sale books from in front of the library to Forrester Acres. We meet in March and April then skip May. That gives us two months in a row to prepare.

We need to find a new board member to replace Eric Bingham. We gave the city 4 names to consider.

Library roof needs to be fixed (it is leaking). The city is supposed to be looking into it to patch it. The concrete is cracking on the old part of the library and it needs serious attention. Karen has started moving some paintings and books away from the damage. They may need to move "Special Collections" to avoid mold.

– Next meeting is in March 2023