

Hendry County Library Cooperative Minutes

November 16, 2023

Present: Natasha Hayes, Toni Couse, Priscilla Brown, Nicole Hellard, Joyce Harper (Alternate for Ms. Thorpe), Carol Rushing, and Patrick Bridwell. Visitor; Anna Littles. Absent: Jackie Espinoza and Deneisha Thorpe.

The Hendry County Library Cooperative Board was called to order by Toni Couse at the Florida B. Thomas Library. A vote to accept the minutes from the August meeting was motioned by Patrick Bridwell and seconded by Carol Rushing. The motion was carried.

Director's Report

- State Aid was submitted on September 30th for the first deadline. Cooperative Director is working on gathering the statistics needed for the second deadline which is December 1st.

Old Business

- Insignia Migration-this process is underway. There were a few roadblocks as it pertains to pulling reports as it has limited our circulation staff to only check ins/outs. There is of course a learning curve when it comes to learning a new software and Cooperative Director simply asks for staffs understanding and patience during this transition as we were with TLC for over 10 years. It will take time to work out all the bugs, but Director remains hopeful of the new system and looks forward to spending the additional funds that are now available to us due to the savings from changing vendors.

New Business

- Deneisha Thorpe has been appointed as the Florida B. Thomas Library Advisory Board Representative.
- New Policies-the following policies were discussed and approved by the Cooperative Board. They will now be presented to the Governing Board which is the City of Clewiston, Board of Commissioners for approval and adoption. Director will also ensure each policy is translated and available in English and Spanish. The following policies were reviewed and approved for adoption:
 - ARSL Access to Information Statement
 - Request for Reconsideration of Materials Policy
 - Request for Reconsideration of Materials Form
 - Materials Selection Policy
 - Unattended Child Policy
 - Library Card Registration and Circulation Policy
 - Confidentiality of Public Record Policy
 - Application for Library Services for Homebound Patrons
- Updated Policies-Due to the Cooperative Board approving the ARSL policy above, the following policies are no longer in effect and the Cooperative Director will coordinate with the City Clerk at the City of Clewiston to ensure the following policies are replaced:
 - ALA Bill of Rights
 - ALA Freedom of Information Act
 - ALA's Code of Ethics
 - ALA Freedom to View Statement
 - ALA Freedom to Read Statement
- Cooperative Board voted to change the quarterly Cooperative Meeting time from 12:00 p.m. (Noon) to 5:00 p.m. going forward.

Barron Public Library:

- Ongoing Programs: Chess Club, Book Club, and Sewing Club.
- Spanish classes continue.

- Senior Technology (5 workshops) wrapped up on November 2nd.
- Weekly Toddler Storytime continues to bring in new patrons.
- October Events:
 - Pumpkin Patch fieldtrips and community engagements (pumpkin painting, cookie decorating, egg hunt, and virtual costume contest).
- Monthly Crafternoon attendance is down.
- Ground repairs and improvements continue.
- Purchased all new interior signage
- Started the wedding process. Will perform inventory once the migration to Insignia is complete
- November, Native American Heritage Presentation with Lewis Gopher and in December there will be storytime with Santa and cookies will be served
- Library staff will attend the SWFLN Makerpalooza
- Rabbit yoga for Toddlers and Teens in January
- Book signing with Kelli Cole "How to Eat Swamp Cabbage" is scheduled for February
- Looking in to starting a D&D Club
- Ordered a new outdoor standalone book drop.

Florida B. Thomas Library

- **August 2023 Events**
 - Hosted programs for the male citizens
 - Domino and Checkers matches held each Monday
 - Held various programs throughout the month
 - Jewelry making
 - Painting with a Twist
 - Ceramic Arts
 - Sewing Classes
 - Held Intro to Free Style Writing and Expo of Writing Pieces for patrons
 - Senior Citizen Bingo held on August 10th
- **September 2023 Events**
 - Male citizen programs held on Mondays
 - Domino matches
 - Ceramic Art Class was held on September 7th and 21st
 - Reading Café Group met on September 12th
 - Painting with a Twist was held on the 14th and 28th
 - Adult Book Club met on the 20th
 - Homework help for grades K-2 held on the 19th and 26th
 - Homework help for grades 3-5 held on the 20th and 27th
- **October 2023 Events**
 - Male citizen programs held on Mondays
 - Checkers and Domino matches
 - Homework help for grades K-2 was held on Tuesdays and grades 3-5 was held on Wednesdays
 - Senior Bingo was held on the 5th
 - Sand Art and Ceramic class was held on Thursdays
 - Video Game Club was held on Fridays
 - VR / Oculus program
 - Held a financial class on the 18th called Down with Debt
 - Hosted a No Bake Baking Class "Sweets with-out Heat" was held on the 26th

Clewiston Public Library:

- Children and Teens navigated obstacles by coding Spheros and playing a game of Tag. There were a total of 55 participants.



- On August 9th the day was filled with boundless curiosity and innovation at our Stem Club for tweens and teens. They dove into the world of Technology and Engineering.
- The AWE Learning Stations were accessed and used by a total of 45 children. Be sure to stop by and let the kids try the Early Literacy Station. It is designed specifically for youngest patrons ages 2-8 and features over 4,000 localized learning activities.
- The Friends of the Clewiston Library Book Club met on August 23rd to discuss "Hang The Moon " written by Jeanette Walls. There were a total of 11 participants.
- Celebrated Library Card Sign up Month which was in September.
- Mrs. Mary Thomas, Secretary for the Friends of the Clewiston Library, along with Mrs. Natasha Hayes, Library Director, were able to spend time at the Clewiston High School on September 29th in order to relay what services, programs, and help that the library provides to the community. Each student also heard about how the library can help them with their volunteer hours needed for their scholarship applications. Mrs. Hayes also participated at the *Parents University* at the Clewiston Middle School on October 24th. Both events were well received and successful as volunteer applications were received in the days that followed along with new patrons signing up for new library cards.
- ***Invited to display our LEGO collection at DOLLY HAND.....??????*** That's correct. We had a great LEGO Bricks Exhibition. The LEGO Brick Builders Club creations were displayed at the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center from October 9th through October 31st. A big THANK YOU to those who participated.
- Perler Beads program held and was so much fun creating spooky designs!
- There were 57 participants who completed the scavenger hunt challenge in September.
- Library Director, Hayes, participated in the Clewiston's Annual Trunk or Treat for the community. Popcorn was provided for free to attendees and candy was handed out as well to trick or treaters.
- **Native American Heritage Month:** Presenting Mr. Lewis Gopher's Seminole Indian Presentation. Held at the Clewiston Library on Tuesday, November 14th at 6:00 p.m.
- On November 2nd, we kicked off Dinovember with Virtual Dino Photo Contest. Thank you to everyone who submitted a dinosaur themed picture.



- Beginning November 8th, we celebrated Dinosaur STEAM week and had activities for six different dinosaur projects. At our Dino STEAM workshop, participants focuses of science, technology, and the

arts. It allows them to put on their critical thinking caps. We conducted excavation activities as we take on the role of young archaeologists.



- Library Director, Hayes, joined in on the fun at the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting by setting up a booth promoting the library and its activities as well as serving free snow cones to attendees.
- Santa Storytime with Santa was held on December 6th at 6 p.m. Attendees enjoyed stories read by Mrs. Claus, along with creating their own winter wonderland crafts. Hot cocoa kits were also available for children to take home and enjoy.

Re-occurring Monthly Clubs

- **Anime Club**
- **Manga Club**
- **Gaming Club**
- **Stem Club**
 - **Robotic Mini Golf**
 - **Buidly Bots**
 - **STEAM Lab-Fossil Dig**
- **Lego Club**
- **Virtual Reality**
- **Adult Book Club**

Selection of Date and Location for Next Meeting- The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 15th at the Clewiston Library @ 5:00 pm.

Public Remarks: none

Adjournment-meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m.