

## **Hendry County Library Cooperative Minutes, August 15, 2024**

### **Opening Remarks**

- The Hendry County Library Cooperative Board was called to order at 5:06 p.m. by Patrick Bridwell at the Florida B. Thomas Library.

### **Roll Call of Members**

- **Present:** Natasha Hayes, Jackie Espinoza, Priscilla Brown, Nicole Hellard, Deneisha Thorpe and Patrick Bridwell. **Absent:** Toni Couse and Carol Rushing.

### **Minutes from Last Meeting**

- A motion to accept the minutes from the May 2, 2024 meeting was made by Jackie Espinoza and seconded by Deneisha Thorpe. The motion was carried.

### **Director's Report**

- **Insignia Update-**Labelle and Harlem are still having a few problems with Insignia. IT Techs are working with the libraries to correct the problems which are mostly printing issues.

### **Old Business**

- **City Vacancies Update:** Danny Williams is the new City Manager, Ashly Sargent is now the Recreation Dept. Director and Randy Maxson is the Finance Director.

### **New Business**

- **State Aid Stats needed-** Each Library Director will fill out the needed information and send to Natasha Hayes in order to complete the State Aid to Libraries annual grant.
- **Financial Update-**Natasha is working with the new Finance Director to confirm the Cooperative's budget and carryover funds. Cooperative Director, Hayes, indicated that we have received our state aid funding last month (July).

### **Barron Public Library:**

#### **June:**

- Chess Club and Book Club continue to meet.
- Summer programs-hosted 13 in person programs. Our Annual Kickoff Party, Showtime for Kids, and Reactory Factory were huge hits. Reactory Factory is highly recommended.
- Hosted 1 contest (How Many Crayons). The winner received Pelican Bucks.
- Hosted Rebuild Florida
- Attempted to host weekly yoga classes. Due to the low interest, the first class was offered at no cost.

#### **July:**

- Summer program-hosted 9 in person programs, including Star Dome Planetarium which is highly recommended, Immokalee Pioneer Museum and Clewiston Museum.
- Hosted 3 contests: How many Legos are in a jar, LEGO Speed, and LEGO Skill. Legos Speed did not have any interest. The winners from the other two competitions received Pelican Bucks.
- Attempted to host weekly yoga classes with the first class offered for free, yet interest levels were low.
- Attended Hendry Glades United Way Back to School in LaBelle. The library interacted with 314 families at this event. The library distributed crayons and pencils as well as various other school supplies.
- Operating hours for the library are Monday through Thursday 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM, Fridays 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, and closed on Saturdays and Sundays.
- Sunshine State books are available.

## Florida B. Thomas Library

- Domino and Checkers matches continue to be held each Monday. This is for senior citizens in the community.
- Programs continue to be held during each month with programs such as: Jewelry making, Painting with a Twist, Ceramic Arts and sewing classes.
- Community Book Club was offered on Wednesdays in November.
- Homework help is also offered and highly attended.
- Senior Citizen Bingo is offered on various Thursdays throughout each month.
- Family Day "Cookie & a Book".
- Spanish Class was offered in May
- New Activities and monthly programs:
  - YMCA and Math Boot Camp will be offered in June and July.
  - Video Game Board play
  - Puzzle Play
  - Phone Photography
  - Art Camp in July
  - Showtime for Kids Magician was held in July
  - CBC on Wednesdays

## Clewiston Public Library:

- **Summer Reading Program:**
  - Kicked off with a Glow Party at the library and then a Glow Swim with the Recreation Department. This was a huge success.
  - Each week there were programs for children and families:
    - Mondays-Movie Madness-free movie, popcorn and fruit smoothies (donated by Yogusto)
    - Wednesdays at 10 a.m. different presenters came to the visit and perform at the library: Showtime for Kids, Baily Matthews Shell Museum, Palm Beach Opera (performed on 3 different occasions), Florida Archaeology Network, Smokey the Bear, and CROWE.
  - Manga Club was held weekly
  - Various other activities offered weekly: Chopstick Challenge, Clay Sushi, Coloring Contests, Mario Kart Tournament and more
- **STEAM LAB:** Step into a new world with Virtual Reality offered weekly
- **LEGO Builders Club:** LEGO Club continues to meet weekly.
- **Adult Book Club:** Come join the discussion of the monthly read. Discussions are held monthly.
- **Anime Club:** held weekly.
- **Video Game Club:** held weekly.
- Adult Quilting
- Mats 4 Cats-collaboration between the Clewiston Library and the Clewiston Animal Shelter. Each weekly adults come together and sew new mats that are then donated to the shelter for the cat's cages.
- Storytime with Mr. Beonigk & Puppets is a huge hit with all.

## Selection of Date and Location for Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be on Thursday, November 8, 2024 at the Clewiston Library @ 5:00 p.m.

**Public Remarks:** none

## Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 6:19 pm.

