

Marshall Public Library
Board of Trustees Minutes
Minutes of the Meeting – February 5, 2025

- Call to order by Terri Nalls at 4:05pm. Members in attendance were Lacey Lovely Lawson, Elizabeth Ponder, Bonnie Strauss, Laurie Smith, Vivian Lewis, Dana Jean, Terri Nalls - Library Director, and Steven Flohr & Nancy Crosby – FOTL.
- Presentations or remarks from the public: None
- Review and approval of January 8, 2025, minutes. Motion to approve minutes from Elizabeth P. and a second by Laurie S. All approved and motion carried.
- Friends of the Library report:
 - Nancy reported that officers have been elected
 - Booksale scheduled 2-7 to 2/15, flyers passed out; credit cards can now be used to pay for books at the sale at the front desk.
 - Membership drive started with renewals sent out
 - Two fundraisers the FOTL do are the membership drive and booksales
 - Library Board encouraged to join the FOTL, sign up for newsletter, etc. at front desk
- Library Director's report:
 - Reviewed stats:
 - Visitors down from 2024, likely due to an error with the counter. Numbers from 2024 were averaged and this year will be more accurate.
 - Circulation was up
 - Ebooks continue to rise
 - Children and teens keep growing
 - Tonie boxes are circulating!
 - Will be adding board games to circulation
 - Calendar distributed. Note:
 - Blood drive in January collected 13 units of blood which is about average for the library.
 - Black History display is up and will have FB posts during the month
 - Reading Challenge – Blind Date with a Book
 - Closed on President's Day and on TX Independence Day (3/3)
 - Myrtle the Therapy Dog and STEAM will be here 2/21
 - Backyard Bird Count 2/14
 - Strategic Plan to be reviewed in 2025. Aiming to be finished by August to turn into City Council. Next month, we will set up the committee to do the review. The last time it was reviewed was during COVID using the previous survey and an online survey.

- Did brief review of survey and updates from Terri
 - The next plan will cover 2026-2031
 - Consider inviting community members to participate on the committee
 - Timeline to do this work:
 - Early Spring - New Survey in early spring
 - o Draft to be presented at March meeting
 - o Survey will be sent to Chamber, City, Schools, Friends, patrons, cardholders, possibly in water bill; will be shared extensively on FB
 - Summer - Board to set up committee to eval survey
 - Fall - written doc to go to City Council
- Open Discussion: Held discussion about “fine free libraries” and reviewed data provided by Terry. A motion was made by Dana J. that Terri present to the City the Board’s proposal that we eliminate fines for a six month trial period; that we collect fees for lost and damaged items; and that accounts with overdues will still be blocked until resolved. Seconded by Elizabeth P. Vote carried unanimously.
 - Motion for adjournment was made at 5:05pm by Dana and seconded by Elizabeth. All approved and motion carried. Meeting adjourned.
 - **Next meeting is on Wednesday, March 5, 2025, at 4:00pm**

Submitted by: Dana Jean