

Hendry County Library Cooperative Minutes, May 2, 2024

Opening Remarks

- The Hendry County Library Cooperative Board was called to order at 5:10 p.m. by Toni Couse at Clewiston Public Library.

Roll Call of Members

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

Minutes from Last Meeting

- A vote to accept the minutes from the February 15, 2024 meeting was motioned by Patrick Bridwell and seconded by Carol Rushing. The motion was carried.

Director's Report

- Insignia Updates -Natasha has reported that she is discussing problems occurring when installing Insignia with Justin Lucas. Hopefully the kinks are worked out. Justin Lucas sent a breakdown on what needs to be done.
- Tech Soup has been purchased for the libraries. It provides discounted services and programs made available to the libraries.

Old Business

- The library website remains the same www.hendrylibraries.org since we have been able to obtain the rights/access to the domain.

New Business

The following Cooperative Policies were discussed and adopted. The policies are available at each library and offered in English as well as Spanish.

- **Animals in Library Building** – A motion was made to accept by Carol Rushing and seconded by Jackie Espinoza. All in Agreement, motion was carried.
- **Internet Access Policy** – A paragraph was added dealing with the responsibility of patrons to delete any private information or personal files when finishing on the internet. A motion was made by Patrick Bridwell and seconded by Carol Rushing to accept with modifications. All in agreement, motion was passed.
- **Reciprocal Borrowers**- Patrons with library cards from other libraries will be able to have a card issued from libraries in Hendry County. They must be in good standing with their home library. Each borrower will be given a Hendry County Library card which they will use within the cooperative.
- **Braille & Talking Books Library**- expanding services and access to the services. This icon will be added to the library's homepage so that patrons can utilize this service if needed.
- **CMON (Children Museum of Naples)**- Passes provide 4 free admissions to the museum for free and are good for up to 7 days per check out. Simply check out an item from your local library and enjoy a day of learning and fun.

- Florida Literacy Program- Provides programs to patrons of the library. This is geared towards adults. Offers programs in citizenship and conversational language classes. It also offers grants and is a good resource. Cost is \$75.00 which the cooperative can split annually. Majority voted to try for a year and then see if renewal of program is beneficial
- Vacancies in the city: Director- Danny Williams is the Interim Director. Other vacancies are Recreational Dept. Director and Financial Director.

Barron Public Library:

- Ongoing Programs: Chess Club, book club, and Spanish class which has been a huge success.
- Technology help workshops during the month of February.
- Weekly Toddler Story time continues to bring in new patrons.
- Monthly crafter noon attendance is better. Advertising crafts ahead of time is working.
- Leprechaun Loose
- Annual Dessert auction was a success.
- Co-Hosted Easter event w/ LDRC, Vargas Rentals & Camp Kindness.
- Celebrated Dr. Suess's Birthday and recognized Amnesty Week
- New activities or ongoing programs:
 - Summer Reading
 - Weeding/Inventory of Library
 - Hendry Schools Parent University
 - Library Shift

Florida B. Thomas Library

- Domino and checker matches continue to be held each Monday.
- Programs continue to be held during the month. Programs are 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.
- Senior Citizen Bingo is offered on Certain Thursdays.
- New Activities or monthly programs.
 - Read With Me
 - Black History Event held on 2/28
 - Intro to Spanish Classes
 - Virtual Play
 - Future Publishers Class
 - Know/Grow/Plant – The Life Cycle
 - A Poetry Event (Read, Recite, Review)
 - The Reading Challenge
 - High School Senior Table of Info
 - Community Events have been very well attended.

Clewiston Public Library:

HIGHLIGHTED PROGRAMS AND EVENTS:

- **STEAM LAB:** Step into a new world with Virtual Reality
- **LEGO Builders Club:** LEGO Club continues to meet.
- **Book Club:** Come join the discussion of the monthly read.
- **Anime Club**
- **Video Game Club:** Join us in-person If you have not done so already, please join our Facebook page (Clewiston Public Library) in order to remain up to date on the library's events and programs.
- Stop by the library to pick up a calendar with a list of events and programs so you can join in on the fun.
- There was a Story and Craft w/ Ms. Peterson & Furry Friends.
- Spring Egg Hunt and Crafts was held.
- Sugar Festival was a huge success w/ raffle and book sale.
- Kathy Brown planned and held a yard sale to benefit the library.

*** All the libraries are planning the summer programs which will be offered at each library.

Selection of Date and Location for Next Meeting:

- The next meeting will be on August 15, 2024 at the Harlem Library @ 5:00 pm.

Public Remarks: none

Adjournment:

- Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.