

THE LIBRARY BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Library of Virginia

September 13, 2021

ARCHIVAL, COLLECTIONS, AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Archival, Collections, and Records Management Services Committee of the Library Board met at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, September 13, 2021, in the Orientation Room at the Library of Virginia. The following committee members were in attendance: Barbara Vines Little, *chair*; R. Chambliss Light Jr., *vice chair* (via teleconference line); Paul Brockwell Jr., Robert L. Canida II, Blythe Ann Scott; and Leonard C. Tengco. John Metz, Greg Crawford, and Errol Somay from the Library staff were also in attendance. Committee member Robert D. Aguirre was absent. Committee Chair Barbara Vines Little called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda that included updates on the diseased microfilm project, the State Records Center expansion project, and the precarious funding situation of the Virginia Newspaper Project.

Ms. Little first asked for an update on the diseased microfilm project. Deputy for Collections and Programs John Metz reported that Imaging Services had shipped 400 reels of film to Backstage Library Works in July and another 600 reels in August, and he stated that the project was well on its way. Dr. Metz estimated, however, that 25 percent of inspected reels required splicing, which slowed the selection process considerably. Backstage will begin returning duplicated reels later this month, and the staff will follow the post-return inspection process under the accelerated plan. Project workflows seem to be working well at the Library and at Backstage. All reels selected for duplication were either acetate or diseased polyester film. Acetate reels account for more than 80 percent of what has been sent to Backstage. The duplication process at Backstage has involved cleaning and duplicating each reel. The process will become more complicated over time as we begin to include a wider range of film requiring more specific determination of reel content and record type.

Dr. Metz then reported on the State Records Center (SRC) expansion project. A Request for Proposals for Architectural and Engineering services to design and oversee the SRC expansion was posted in March and closed in April. Review of the applications resulted in a short list of six firms to be interviewed. The interview panel consisted of Ben Lewis (DGS procurement), Chinh Vu (Director of Construction Management, DGS), Chris Porras (Project Manager, DGS), and John Metz (LVA). Interviews were held between June 23 and 30, resulting in the selection of a final candidate. The name of the successful bidder will not be announced until the contract is finalized later this month (9/21).

The final agenda item involved an update on the Virginia Newspaper Project (VNP) and the unsuccessful attempt to secure federal funding for the coming year through the National Digital Newspaper Project because of reduced NDH funding. Project director Errol Somay reported that the Library was one of the original participants in the National Newspaper Project, receiving its first 2-year grant in 1994 as well as one of the original National Digital Newspaper grantees in

the early 2000s. The goal of the program is to reflect different perspectives of Virginia during its 285 years of newspaper publishing, capturing the state's different racial, ethnic, and cultural populations, and its diverse regions, both rural and urban. Over time, the VNP has microfilmed 2 million pages, contributed 675,000 digitized pages to Chronicling America, and uploaded 2.34 million digitized pages to Virginia Chronicle, the LVA's own newspaper portal. The most recent grant proposal was not successful, and the challenge for the Library is to bridge the funding for the coming year and hope that next year's request will be successful.

PUBLIC LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Public Library Development Committee of the Library Board met at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, September 13, 2021, in Conference Room C at the Library of Virginia. The following committee members were in attendance: Mark Miller, *chair*; Shelley Viola Murphy, *vice chair* (via teleconference line); Laura L.L. Blevins, Lana Real, and Marcy Sims. Staff liaison Nan Carmack was also present. Committee members L. Preston Bryant Jr. and Maya Castillo were absent.

Public Library Development Director Nan Carmack provided the committee an overview of the division's LSTA funded projects for the benefit of new members and a refresher for returning members. She also reported that CARES and ARPA allocations are being successfully managed by the agency and are presenting new opportunities and management challenges for both libraries and LVA staff. Finally, she shared the news that a new adult services consultant has been hired and will begin work on September 27, 2021. His focus will be on Find It Virginia, programming surrounding its digital assets; reference and outreach training provision; workforce and adult education; and the management of the Library's WordPress project.

Mr. Miller then recapped last year's discussion regarding the possibility of approaching JLARC about conducting a review and examination of the state aid formula. Noting the low appetite for this review during the pandemic and other legislative items that were more pressing, the discussion was tabled.

LEGISLATIVE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Legislative and Finance Committee of the Library Board met at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, September 13, 2021, in the Orientation Room at the Library of Virginia. The following committee members were in attendance: R. Chambliss Light Jr., *chair* (via teleconference line); Paul Brockwell Jr., *vice chair*; Laura L.L. Blevins and Blythe Ann Scott. Committee members Robert D. Aguirre and Maya Castillo were absent. Librarian of Virginia Sandra G. Tredway and Fiscal Manager Wendy Hupp were also present. As Mr. Light was attending via phone, he asked Mr. Brockwell to preside over the meeting.

The committee reviewed the Statement of Financial Condition as of July 31, 2021, as included in the Board packet. Ms. Hupp walked the members through the numbers, assuring the committee that everything was tracking as it should for the first month of the new fiscal year. Ms. Hupp explained that the most notable differences on the year-to-year comparison had to do with the

additional funds brought into the CCRP program through the recordation fee increase and the end of several grants, which was why the special revenue amount had decreased.

Dr. Treadway then provided an overview of the three budget decision package requests that the Library was planning to submit for the Governor's consideration. One was to fund three positions that would allow the Library to expand its outreach in areas relating to diversity, equity, and inclusion. The second was to support two positions with the Virginia Newspaper Project that had until this year been funded through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. And the third was for funding and several additional staff positions to address the inventorying of our microfilm records and replacement of all film that is diseased. The Library had developed three different scenarios with different price tags, and Dr. Treadway asked for the committee's guidance on which they would prefer, as if this was not included in the Governor's upcoming budget, it would be up to the Library Board whether to pursue this as a budget request to the General Assembly. After much discussion, the committee opted for submitting a request that would accomplish this work in the shortest time frame, selecting the eight-year scenario at a cost of \$950,000. The committee also decided to recommend that the full Board adopt a resolution of support for this proposal. Mr. Brockwell proposed the following resolution:

Whereas the board believes the preservation of Virginia records is vital to ensuring greater understanding of the Commonwealth's history as it relates to racism and to living into our values of diversity, equity and inclusion; and, whereas, we see the preservation of records as particularly important to this work given the high relevance of those materials to illuminating that history; and diseased microfilm represents a threat to preserving often the only copy of records related to people who were enslaved in the Commonwealth;

Therefore, be it resolved the Library Board expresses its support for the Library's eight-year proposal for addressing diseased microfilm and expresses its support for additional budget decision proposals related to staffing and support services for key projects that advance understanding of diversity, equity and inclusion in the Commonwealth.

The committee unanimously voted to in favor of this resolution and to recommend its adoption by the full Board.

Finally, the committee reviewed the proposed LSTA budget for FY 2022. After brief discussion, the committee voted to approve the budget as submitted and to recommend its adoption by the full Board.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The Education, Outreach, and Research Services Committee of the Library Board met at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, September 13, 2021, in Conference Room C at the Library of Virginia. The following committee members were in attendance: Shelley Viola Murphy, *chair* (via teleconference line), Marcy Sims, *vice chair*, Robert L. Canida II, Barbara Vines Little, Mark Miller, Lana Real, and Leonard C. Tengco. Gregg Kimball, Paul Casalasi, and Catherine Fitzgerald Wyatt from the Library were also in attendance.

Education and Outreach Manager Catherine Fitzgerald Wyatt reported on the exhibition *We Demand: Women's Suffrage in Virginia*, and the Library's planning for future exhibitions, and

traveling exhibitions. She began by stating that all aspects of the exhibition program were profoundly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent emergency public health orders. *We Demand* opened at the Library of Virginia on January 13, 2020, but was unavailable when the Library building closed to the public in March 2020. The exhibition reopened on August 25 with limited occupancy and required facial coverings. The Library extended the exhibition through May 28, 2021, and the total door count in the gallery was 9,619. Ms. Fitzgerald Wyatt outlined the various ways that exhibition team creatively brought the exhibitions content to the public, including a series of eight short videos in the gallery to highlight aspects of the exhibition (now online at <https://edu.lva.virginia.gov/wedemand/>), a digital walkthrough of the exhibition, and twenty-three virtual talks to libraries, museums, and civic organizations. The closure of public libraries across the state also disrupted the Library's traveling exhibition program. Venues for the exhibitions rescheduled as necessary, yet the traveling component of *We Demand* has remained on the road, including one week at the Patrick Henry Building on Capitol Square in connection with Women's Equality Day on August 26, 2021. Finally, Ms. Fitzgerald Wyatt reported on the challenges of planning future exhibitions in an unstable environment. There was considerable interest in a proposal to engage Virginia's tribes in an exhibition and project related to the Library's collections as well as a project related to the history of Richmond's Jackson Ward. Several Board members asked about our plans for diversity and inclusion related to exhibition planning and audience.

Dr. Kimball then outlined the ways that the pandemic continues to pose challenges for our reference and reading room operations. He described the rise in remote reference and research (up almost 20 percent in FY 21). Accommodating patrons from across the state and country who are reluctant to or cannot travel has been a point of emphasis. He explained that the reasons for the reading room remaining closed to the public on Mondays were mainly to allow for the increased volume of remote reference and to completing digital projects such as converting all research notes to the LibGuides platform. He reported that the Library will be open on selected Saturdays for the rest of the calendar year. Several Board members asked about hours of operation, and Dr. Kimball stated that the Library has actually been one of the most accessible state archives in the South and Mid-Atlantic regions during the pandemic.

Ms. Fitzgerald Wyatt reported on a number of initiatives for teacher development sponsored by the Library including the annual Ann and Ryland Brown Teacher Institute and Fellowship and the Hidden Histories Research Fellowship. She described the expanded Brown Teacher Institute workshops made possible by the Anne and Ryland Brown Teacher Enrichment Fund and funding from Virginia Humanities in support of the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the 1971 Virginia Constitution. The Library launched a statewide effort to provide teachers with primary sources regarding the state's constitutional past. The additional funding allowed the Library to hold in-person events in Abingdon, Newport News, and Richmond as well as a virtual event. Ms. Fitzgerald Wyatt next reported on the work of our two Brown Fellows who focused on research and projects related to the history of Virginia's state constitutions and how each one has influenced the daily lives of all Virginians. Fellows created a set of documents in support of the 50th anniversary of the 1971 Virginia Constitution that will be added to the online primary resource collection Document Bank of Virginia (DBVa) for use by educators. She wrapped up by discussing a special fellowship conducted in collaboration with Full Spectrum Features called the Hidden Histories Teacher Research Fellowship. The fellowship provided educators with

specialized training and access to Library of Virginia resources regarding Japanese-American internment during World War II. Fellows were also given access to Full Spectrum’s collection of short narrative films about the incarceration (entitled “*Hidden Histories*”). This collaboration came about because of the Library’s recent outreach to underrepresented communities.

THE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Library of Virginia
September 13, 2021

The Library Board met on Monday, September 13, 2021, in the Board Meeting Room at the Library of Virginia, 800 East Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia.

I. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/QUORUM

Blythe Ann Scott, chair, called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m., and noted there was a quorum of the Library Board physically present. In addition, there were three members of the Board who had asked to participate in the meeting virtually and were doing so via Zoom. Ms. Scott asked the Board’s legal counsel, Audrey Burges, to remind those members attending via Zoom of the requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act that permitted their participation in this way. Ms. Burges stated that members wishing to participate in the meeting electronically needed to state one of three reasons for their remote attendance (a personal matter, illness, or caregiving for a sick family member) and have that reason reflected in the meeting minutes.

Mr. Light stated that he was participating remotely due to illness that prevented him from traveling to Richmond. Ms. Murphy stated that she had a personal commitment later in the day and would not be able to keep it with the travel time returning from Richmond. Mr. Tengco stated that he was participating from home as he was taking care of a sick child.

The following members were in attendance, in person or electronically:

Blythe Ann Scott, *Chair*
Laura L.L. Blevins
Paul Brockwell Jr.
Robert L. Canida II
Maya Castillo
R. Chambliss Light Jr.
Barbara Vines Little
Mark Miller
Shelley Viola Murphy
Lana Real
Marcy Sims
Leonard C. Tengco

Mr. L. Preston Bryant Jr. and Dr. Robert Aguirre were absent.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Scott asked for a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was made by Paul Brockwell, seconded by Marcy Sims. All in-person Board members voted unanimously to approve; Mr. Tengco, Mr. Light, and Dr. Murphy registered their affirmative vote via roll call.

III. WELCOME TO VISITORS AND STAFF

Ms. Scott welcomed Pia Trigiani, president of the Library of Virginia Foundation Board; Audrey Burges, the Board's legal counsel from the Attorney General's Office; and Conley Edwards, representing the Friends of the Virginia State Archives.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public present who wished to make public comment.

V. APPROVAL OF THE LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES OF JUNE 28, 2021, BOARD MEETING

Ms. Scott asked if Board members had any changes they wished to suggest to the Board minutes as distributed in the meeting packet. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Laura Blevins moved to approve the minutes, and Dr. Robert Canida seconded the motion. The June 28, 2021 Library Board meeting minutes were approved unanimously, with all in-person Board members voting to approve, and Mr. Tengco, Mr. Light, and Dr. Murphy registered their affirmative votes via roll call.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Reports from Other Organizations

Conley Edwards, president of the Friends of the Virginia State Archives, introduced himself for the benefit of new Library Board members and provided a brief history of the Friends organization. He drew the Board's attention to the Friends-sponsored Slatten Lecture, which was scheduled to take place at the Library on Saturday, November 6, and he thanked the Library's Facilities staff for their help in making the arrangements. He also told the Board that the Friends remain committed to their support of the Library, and in 2019 had contributed \$15,000 toward the purchase of genealogical books and other materials for the Library's collection, as well as to assist conservation and processing of archival materials. In 2020 the Friends contributed nearly \$20,000 toward similar materials. Mr. Edwards also noted the contribution made by the Friends to cover the cost of printing the annual Archives Month poster produced by the Library to highlight the importance of archival collections held by Virginia historical societies and repositories.

Mr. Edwards drew the Board's attention to the recent death of Dr. Louis H. Manarin, longtime state archivist of Virginia, who was instrumental in securing passage of the Virginia Public Records Act, establishing the Virginia Circuit Court Records Program, and making the case for constructing a State Records Center to house permanent and non-permanent state records.

Barbara Vines Little asked to make an announcement from another organization. She stated that the national conference of the National Genealogical Society will be meeting in Richmond in 2023, and that prospective attendees were already inquiring about the Library's hours during their meeting as many conference goers are planning on doing research at the Library while they are in town for the conference.

VII. COMMITTEE AND DIVISION REPORTS

• Archival, Collections, and Records Management Services Committee

Archival, Collections, and Records Management Services Committee Chair Barbara Vines Little reported on the three agenda items that were discussed at the committee meeting. She reviewed the issues that the Library is facing with the a large portion of the microfilm in the collection, which has deteriorated through age, heavy use, degradation of the acetate film itself, and redox. She described the process that Library staff has been going through to assess the 380,000 reels for damage, and right now the staff estimates about 80,000 reels will need to be copied and replaced. As the film is duplicated, attention will also be given to entering correct information into the inventory control system, as legacy information about film prior to 1998 was either non-existent or did not convey to the Infolinx system that the Library now uses. Ms. Little stressed that the Library must continue to work on resolving this issue, and that the genealogical community would be happy to help support a budget request to the General Assembly.

The second committee agenda item was the expansion of the State Records Center, which Ms. Little reported was moving forward on schedule. She asked Board members to read the summary of the project's progress to date as provided in the Library Board packet.

The third item was the Virginia Newspaper Project, which Ms. Little described as an immensely valuable resource for researchers. She reported that the project had just learned that the National Endowment for the Humanities grant that has supported the project for many years would not be renewed for the current year. She invited Errol Somay, director of the project, to explain the project's major accomplishments and the need to secure funding from alternative sources in order to keep key staff in place. He projected that in the coming year alone, the VNP staff would be able to add close to two million new digitized pages of newspaper content to Virginia Chronicle, where they would be freely accessible to all.

• Education, Outreach, and Research Services Committee

Committee vice chair Marcy Sims stated that the committee had a robust discussion about past and upcoming exhibitions, changes in public services, and the work the Library does assisting Virginia teachers. She invited Public Services and Outreach Division Director Gregg Kimball and Education and Outreach Manager Catherine Fitzgerald Wyatt to provide additional information about these activities.

Dr. Kimball reported that with visitation greatly reduced due to continuing concern about the pandemic, the Education and Outreach staff held most of its programming during the past year virtually, including virtual tours of exhibitions. Programming staff are currently discussing how much virtual programming to maintain in the coming year, balancing this with the need to resume in-person events in the building again. A similar assessment of public service hours and offerings is underway as the Library is not yet able to restore all pre-pandemic research hours. The Library is currently open Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and two Saturdays a month, but it has substantially increased our remote reference services. Dr. Kimball stated that staff will shortly be surveying our users to determine how best we can meet their research needs going forward.

Ms. Fitzgerald Wyatt reported on the success of this summer's teachers institute, which took place in three locations as well as virtually this year due to a grant from Virginia Humanities, which allowed the Library to add Abingdon and Newport News as sites for additional institutes. The topic for this year's institutes was Virginia's constitution, with special emphasis on the Constitution of 1971 which was commemorating its 50th anniversary. Ms. Wyatt stated that the institute content was well received and that as a follow up to the institutes, the Library will soon add educational resources developed by the two middle school summer teaching fellows courtesy of the Anne and Ryland Brown Teacher Enrichment Fund. The Library also entered into a partnership with a Chicago film company to add a new fellowship titled Hidden Histories, which funded three Virginia teachers who developed classroom resources relating to Asian Americans and how Japanese internment during World War II affected Virginians.

Board member Leonard Tengco thanked Ms. Wyatt for that information and mentioned that when he was a member of the Virginia Asian Advisory Board he passed along information about the Library's work in this area and that the group appreciated all that the Library did to surface these hidden stories.

- **Legislative and Finance Committee**

Paul Brockwell, vice chair of the committee, reported on the committee meeting as committee chair R. Chambliss Light, Jr., was participating via Zoom. Mr. Brockwell referred the Board to the budget to expenditures documents dated July 31 contained in the Library Board packet. He stated that everything was tracking as it should one month into the fiscal year. He noted that the large amount in the budget for the CCRP program was due to the recent increase in the recordation fee and that these funds would be put to good use on the preservation and digitization of court records of historical importance in the coming year. Mr. Brockwell also shared with the Board that Connie Warne, who had prepared the financial reports, was not present at the meeting as she had announced her retirement from the Library effective at the end of the year and was trying to wrap up several projects by that time. He then directed the Board to the year-to-date comparison between 2020 and 2021, noting the additional \$1.4 million in general fund revenue included an increase in the state aid appropriation (\$1 million) and for positions to process gubernatorial records (\$400,000). He also noted the \$2.2 million increase in the CCRP funds. Mr. Brockwell asked Dr. Treadway if she had anything to add. She

reminded the Board that the reason that the financial statement shows that 23 percent of the general fund appropriation had been spent by the end of July was that the Library pays the first quarter state aid payment and its annual rent payment to the Department of General Services the first month of the fiscal year and both of these represent such a large portion of the agency's budget.

Mr. Brockwell then presented two action items from the committee for consideration by the full Board. The first was the committee's recommendation that the Board approve the 2021-2022 LSTA Grant Budget. Mr. Brockwell reviewed a number of the projects that the Library funds using LSTA money, highlighting Find It Virginia, the largest line item. He explained the value of the databases, ebooks, and other electronic resources made available to anyone who resides in Virginia through their local public library at no cost to local libraries thanks to the LSTA program. Ms. Scott added that not all states have a program such as this, and that she is proud that the Library uses LSTA funding in this way. Ms. Little asked why some of the databases that the Library offers its card holders, such as JSTOR, are not available through Find It Virginia. Dr. Treadway explained that the Library pays for JSTOR with state funds (not LSTA) and that it can afford the license fees for a much smaller user base but cannot afford the license cost for all public library cardholders across the entire state. Per the committee's recommendation, Ms. Scott called for a vote to approve the LSTA budget. All in-person Board members voted unanimously to approve; Mr. Tengco, Mr. Light, and Dr. Murphy registered their affirmative votes via roll call, and the budget was approved unanimously.

Mr. Brockwell then reported on the committee's discussion relating to the budget requests that the Library hopes to submit to the Governor's Office for possible inclusion in the 2022-2024 biennial budget that the Governor will submit in December to the General Assembly. One proposal was for three positions to advance the Library's diversity, equity, and inclusion work and outreach; one proposal would provide state funding for two positions to sustain the Virginia Newspaper Project; and a third proposal would be to address the diseased microfilm issue. The Library developed three scenarios, each with different price tags, relating to the microfilm: an eight-year plan that would cost \$950,000 a year; a twelve-year plan totaling \$600,000; and a fifteen-year plan costing \$450,000. The committee strongly supports the Library asking for funding to implement the eight-year plan and offered the following resolution approved by the committee for consideration by the full Board:

Whereas the board believes the preservation of Virginia records is vital to ensuring greater understanding of the Commonwealth's history as it relates to racism and to living into our values of diversity, equity and inclusion; and, whereas, we see the preservation of records as particularly important to this work given the high relevance of those materials to illuminating that history; and diseased microfilm represents a threat to preserving often the only copy of records related to people who were enslaved in the Commonwealth;

Therefore, be it resolved the Library Board expresses its support for the Library's eight-year proposal for addressing diseased microfilm and expresses its support for additional budget decision proposals related to staffing and support services for key projects that advance understanding of diversity, equity and inclusion in the Commonwealth.

Ms. Scott thanked Mr. Brockwell and asked if there was any discussion. Mr. Miller asked if other agencies were experiencing the same issue and whether they might partner with the Library in seeking funding or whether CCRP funds could be used to address the microfilm issue. Dr. Metz responded that the Library was the agency responsible for maintaining these historical records permanently, not the agencies themselves, and that much of the film that is in jeopardy is legacy film produced years ago. He also explained the CCRP funds were being applied to the duplication process as much of the film that we have prioritized to be addressed first is film that holds local court records. Ms. Scott asked if there was any further discussion. Hearing none, she called for a vote on the committee's recommendation. All in-person Board members voted unanimously to approve; Mr. Tengco, Mr. Light, and Dr. Murphy registered their affirmative votes via roll call, and the resolution was approved unanimously.

Dr. Treadway then explained the process the Library had to follow to submit budget proposals. She needed first to secure approval to submit the proposals from the Secretary of Education's Office. Once that approval was secured, the Library could submit its own requests to the Department of Planning and Budget. The Library leadership likely will not hear anything further until mid-December when the Governor released his budget to the money committees of the General Assembly. Ms. Sims asked whether a budget amendment to increase State Aid was likely to happen. Dr. Treadway explained that governors rarely include an increase in aid to localities in their budgets but rely on those increases to occur as part of the legislative process. She stated that she expected there to be a budget amendment introduced through the lobbying efforts of the Virginia Library Association and that the Library Board could, if it desired, express its support for that amendment during the legislative session.

- **Public Library Development Committee**

Committee chair Mark Miller stated that the committee did not have any new business items on its agenda but instead had received updates on a variety of activities and initiatives that the Library Development team was working on, including projects relating to school readiness, summer learning, continuing education, and technology. He also reviewed for new members of the committee last summer's conversation concerning whether to ask JLARC to conduct a study of state aid with an eye toward changing the formula by which state aid is calculated to make it more equitable for libraries in financially stressed areas of the state. He reminded the Board that the committee decided not to pursue this now, but to work first on securing full funding for state aid. He asked Library Development and Networking Director Nan Carmack to share additional information from the meeting. Dr. Carmack explained how the LDND activities the committee discussed tied to the projects that were listed on the LSTA annual budget that the Board had approved. She shared that her department was delighted to have added an adult services consultant, Barry Trott, to the staff. This would enable the Library to provide public libraries with the same level of support in areas of importance to adult patrons as it does for children and younger audiences. Finally, she explained that much of the department's time has been devoted to administration of the federal CARES and

ARPA programs as these involve subgrants to individual local libraries and fulfilling reporting requirements for the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

In closing, Mr. Miller referred back to the Board's earlier discussion of the CCRP program, and stated that he anticipates that the fund based on recording fees will likely go up substantially in future years and expressed the hope that the Library was factoring that in to its future planning.

- **Report of the Foundation**

Foundation Executive Director Scott Dodson began by thanking Library Board members for their support. He reported that despite the challenges of the past year, the Foundation's efforts had been successful. The Foundation ended FY21 close to 13 percent ahead in unrestricted giving and 185 percent in restricted giving over the previous year and was able to contribute more than \$261,000 toward Library projects and programs. The Foundation's endowment also recovered from the downturn of the previous year, reaching \$4.48 million at the end of June 2021. Mr. Dodson added that so far contributions were running about \$100,000 ahead of last year, with a good portion of that coming from grant funding for the Library's work on projects related to the 50th anniversary of the Virginia Constitution, including a legacy constitutional website.

Mr. Dodson then provided an update on the Literary Awards event, which will be held virtual on Saturday, October 16, with evening events featuring award finalists taking place during the week leading up to the main awards evening. So far, the event has raised as much money as it did last year, though it was still \$20,000 short of the budgeted fundraising goal. He reported on several Foundation-sponsored events that would be occurring this fall, among them a Weinstein Series lecture with author Karen Cox speaking about her new book on Confederate monuments and the ongoing fight for racial justice on September 14 and a conversation between former Governor Charles Robb and former Secretary of Education Anne Holton about Robb's new memoir *In the Arena* on October 6.

Mr. Dodson announced that Katherine La Boy had joined the Foundation staff as the assistant director of finance and administration. He mentioned that the Virginia Shop in the Capitol would reopen this week and stated that the Foundation's Strategic Plan had been placed on the Library's website should Library Board members wish to consult it. He then asked Foundation Board chair Pia Trigiani if she wished to add anything. Ms Trigiani expressed her appreciation to the Library Board for allowing her to attend the Board meetings and thanked Mr. Dodson for all that he had done over the summer to keep the Foundation moving forward despite staffing shortages and other logistical challenges.

Report of the Librarian of Virginia

Dr. Treadway expressed her delight at being able to meet with everyone in person for the first time in a year and a half. She then described the momentous two weeks that

Richmond has experienced with the removal of the Robert E. Lee statue on Monument Avenue, the assembling of contents for a new time capsule to replace the one reported to have been installed in the Lee Monument's base in the late 1880s, and the installation of the new time capsule in the monument's foundation. She explained the Library's role in helping to identify material for the new capsule and shared that the booklet that accompanied the Library's New Virginians exhibition was one of the included items. She then walked the Board through a handout included in the packet that provided a list of ideas, projects, and potential events that the staff and management team had put together for consideration as part of the Library's 200th anniversary in 2023. She stated that she wanted Board members to have an opportunity to think about these ideas in advance of the Joint Retreat with the Foundation in November when she hoped that both boards together would take a deep dive into 2023 planning.

- **Report of the Chair**

Ms. Scott thanked Mr. Tengco for sharing his experience with the Library with other groups in which he is involved, and she asked other Board members to consider doing so as well, encouraging them to be champions for the Library in their communities. She then turned to the three action items listed on the agenda.

The Library Board's By-Laws require Board approval of the members of the Nominating Committee. Ms. Scott presented the following slate of Nominating Committee members for the Board's consideration: Marcy Sims as chair; Robert Aguirre, Paul Brockwell Jr., L. Preston Bryant Jr, and R. Chambliss Light Jr. Paul Brockwell moved that the Board approve this slate of members, and Lana Real seconded the motion. All in person Board members voted unanimously to approve; Mr. Tengco, Mr. Light, and Dr. Murphy registered their affirmative votes via roll call. Ms. Scott then asked for a motion to formally approve Leonard Tengco as the second member of the Library Board to serve on the Foundation Board. Mr. Brockwell made the motion, and Ms. Little seconded it. All in person Board members voted unanimously to approve; Mr. Tengco, Mr. Light, and Dr. Murphy registered their affirmative votes via roll call.

Ms. Scott then asked Mr. Brockwell to read aloud the following resolution that she wished to put before the Board commending and thanking L. Preston Bryant for his service as chair of the Library Board:

**The Commonwealth of Virginia
A Resolution of the Library Board**

WHEREAS L. Preston Bryant, Jr., was appointed to a five-year term on the Library Board in 2016 by Governor Terry McAuliffe; and

WHEREAS since that time he has generously shared with the Board the expertise he developed in his career as a former member of the Virginia General Assembly, as a Cabinet secretary in the

administration of Governor Timothy Kaine, as chair of the National Capital Planning Commission, and as senior vice president of McGuireWoods Consulting; and

WHEREAS he was elected chair of the Library Board by his peers and served as chair from July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS as chair he provided guidance and leadership on a wide variety of important issues and was instrumental in securing the Library's budget requests to advance the State Records Center expansion project and obtain funding for four additional positions to reduce the backlog in releasing gubernatorial records; and

WHEREAS as chair during the COVID-19 pandemic, he oversaw a smooth transition to virtual rather than in-person meetings and ensured that the Library Board observed all electronic meeting requirements for public bodies under law; and

WHEREAS both as a Board member and as Board chair he has been an articulate, enthusiastic, and effective supporter of the Library of Virginia and the Library of Virginia Foundation; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Library Board on this 13th day of September 2021 that the Library Board recognize L. Preston Bryant, Jr. for his steady and thoughtful leadership of the Library Board and for his continued service to the Commonwealth; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting, and that a copy of it be given to L. Preston Bryant, Jr., as a token of the Board's gratitude for his service to the Library and to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Ms. Real moved that the Board adopt the resolution as read; Ms. Little seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board, with all in-person Board members voting to approve; Mr. Tengco, Mr. Light, and Dr. Murphy registered their affirmative vote via roll call.

VIII. OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

There was no old or new business.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Ms. Scott adjourned the meeting at 12:50 p.m.