



Quarterly Meeting of the Executive Board - Thursday, November 21, 2019
Chambers County Library, Anahuac

Meeting was called to order by President Jean Abshier Forrest at 5:38pm. Those in attendance: Librarians Valerie Jensen and Annie Vass. Members Michelle Davis, A. Lynette Parsons, and Adaire Griffin. Absent: Tylene Wilcox, Gaynell Leming, Melanie Sullivan, and Elaine Byrd.

Minutes were approved

Forrest mentioned the Little Free Library. Parsons asked if there was another little library in town and it was mentioned that it was at the Chambers County Museum at Wallisville.

Treasurer report – Lynette gave a rundown of the current state of the Friends' account. As of 11/17/19, the 481 (Library) account has a balance of 13,207.09 and the 885 (Friends) account has a balance of \$3,296.16. Amount owed to Chambers County is \$213,191. Parsons mentioned the Hotel/Motel grant received by the library for Nerd Con (an event in Dec. of '19) for \$5,000. This money is used for promotional items for the event. The Goss library in Mont Belvieu received a \$500 grant for staff member Shelby Fielding's Escape Room program she did for Project Graduation. Project Graduation committee donated the money for her hard work.

New/Old Business – Forrest asked about seed money for Mont Belvieu's gift wrapping fundraiser. Mont Belvieu received \$100 seed money.

Jensen spoke for Byrd and gave a brief bookstore update. A new volunteer began working in October a few times a week. Donations are slim.

Griffin commented on the good job Puppa does with the Friends Facebook page and mentioned she could also post on the Facebook page.

Parsons asked if the group wanted to do the Giving Tuesday promotion again. Davis made a motion to approve, with a second by Parsons. Parson will deliver the donation boxes and Jensen will do a blast email to library patrons as well as promote on social media/website.

A date for the annual meeting was set for January 25, 2020 at 9am at the Sam and Carmena Goss Memorial Branch in Mont Belvieu.

Parsons asked that library staff members turn in their programming receipts no later than December 13.

Jensen asked on behalf of Aquilia De la Cruz, Branch Librarian at Anahuac for \$200 in programming money. A request for \$75 was also made by Branch Librarian Yolie Belt at Mont Belvieu. The group discussed what the money will be used for and Forrest mentioned that if the gift wrapping seed money

was not used they could use that money for programming expenses. A motion was made by Davis to approve the request with a second by Griffin. Parsons asked to amend the motion by requesting a breakdown from Anahuac of their use of programming money from 2019.

Jensen gave an update on Winnie after the damage from Imelda. As of 11/21/19 the library was functioning at about 90%. Books were being organized, a few pieces of equipment were still to be delivered, but the public was very glad the library is back. Jensen then talked about construction updates for Winnie. A "future home of" sign should be going up soon at Winnie. It was also mentioned that the Chambers County Library in Anahuac is getting a new library but a location is still to be determined. The Historical Commission will also have a space alongside the library with parking to accommodate the library and historical commission. The library will be repurposed or demo'd to make room for the new justice center. Jensen asked the group if it was ok to send an email to people who have not renewed their Friends dues since 2016. The group agreed and a blast email will be sent after Thanksgiving. Jensen asked on behalf of Anahuac if they could get approval to sell beanie hats/bands at the Merry Extension Christmas program. De la Cruz was applauded for her ongoing successful programming efforts. Jensen mentioned the need for background checks for all Friends members who deal with money. The County Attorney suggested this be done for all employees and anyone who volunteers and handles money (bookstore). Mollie Simpson, current board member has moved out of town and asked to be removed from the board. Replacement members will be discussed at the annual meeting in January. Assistant County Librarian Annie Vass gave an overview of Nerd Con, an event to be held in December. A small anime convention including artists, authors, cosplay, books, celebrity voice actors, etc. will be in attendance. This is the 2nd year for this event and is expected to be bigger than 2018's event.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm. Next meeting will be the annual meeting at the Sam and Carmena Goss Memorial Branch in Mont Belvieu at 9am.