

**FREDERICK COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
APRIL 6, 2016**

The Frederick County Public Libraries Board of Trustees Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. on April 6, 2016 at the C. Burr Artz Library, Frederick, Maryland.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** C. Greenway, T. Kutz, S. Manny, B. Poteat, C. Smith, and Council Liaison, T. Chmelik.

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** D. Kiser and G. Laugelli

**STAFF PRESENT:** D. Batson, Director; D. Buker; Virtual Branch Administrator; D. Payne, Assistant Branch Administrator – C. Burr Artz Library; D. Bannwolf – Public Relations Manager; J. El-Zeftawy – Development Officer; B. Hissong – Community Services Coordinator; C. Reighard – Library Associate – C. Burr Artz Library; J. Earp, Administrative Aide-Fiscal; and L. Tibbs, Recording Secretary.

**CITIZEN REMARKS:** None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** C. Greenway made a motion to approve the Minutes of the March 2, 2016 meeting of the FCPL Board of Trustees Meeting; seconded by S. Manny. No discussion. VOTE: Unanimous.

**CHAIR'S REPORT:** Ms. Smith noted that Frederick County Public Libraries was selected by the United Way of Frederick to receive the Collective Impact Award. She added that she is always excited to hear about the recognitions of the good work that Darrell Batson and staff do within the community. She congratulated everyone on winning that award.

Thereafter, Ms. Smith added that members of the FCPL Board of Trustees are interviewing for vacancies on the Library Board. Interviews will be held within the next week and then a recommendation should be brought before the FCPL Board of Trustees at the May meeting.

Ms. Smith introduced T. Kutz who is one of the out-going members of the FCPL Board of Trustees. He has had a 10-year tenure with the FCPL Board of Trustees and would like to make a few comments.

Mr. Kutz thanked his learned colleagues on the FCPL Board of Trustees (current and past) as well as the dedicated staff for their patience on his work with the Board over the years. Almost 10 years ago he decided to apply for the FCPL Board of Trustees. That decision did not seem all that difficult or hard at the time but now knowing that this will be his final speech on the FCPL Board of Trustees, he noted that he looks back on all the changes that have taken place. He stated that it gives him an opportunity to pause and think back when almost 40 years ago he began graduate school for an MLS. Much has changed over this time in libraries but the core elements are still there. Frederick has been privileged to have Darrell Batson as its Library Director. He has done an outstanding job in his tenure. Mr. Kutz noted that while he has served

on the FCPL Board of Trustees, the following libraries have been opened: Urbana Regional Library, Thurmont Regional Library and a new library in Brunswick. These structures have transformed FCPL giving us outstanding regional complexes in addition to the C. Burr Artz Library. The best part of Mr. Batson's tenure was the Harry Potter event. He noted that he has never seen or heard of any library anywhere having anything to match that event. Although libraries seem to be moving away from their original focus that was education as Andrew Carnegie stressed, we still have that available as part of the library's mission. Mr. Kutz noted that he personally disagrees with some of the new emphasis on games and other technologies that take away from the book itself. He noted that to him what a library should be is best represented by the Bodleian Library at the Oxford University. He encouraged everyone to visit the Bodleian Library. Finally, he stated that although there have been great strides in the Frederick County Public Library system since Darrell Batson came on board as Director, we must be vigilant about the future of libraries in Frederick County. Mr. Kutz stated that we are privileged to have County Executive Jan Gardner at the head of the County, who has always been a friend of Frederick County Public Libraries. He added that we have to be careful because there are some that claim libraries are obsolete and that libraries are no longer needed. One of those individuals said you can go to Borders and get a book anytime. In addition, some of these individuals have stated that libraries are obsolete since you can order anything you want from Amazon but that presupposes that you possess the financial means to do that. In closing, Mr. Kutz thanked everyone for letting him speak tonight and say farewell to his learned colleagues and those on the staff.

Ms. Smith thanked Mr. Kutz for his remarks and noted that Mr. Kutz has two more months of service on the FCPL Board of Trustees.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

**a. FCPL – Update:** Mr. Batson noted that many staff are missing from tonight's meeting. Every two years the Public Library Association has a large conference. Unlike the American Library Association which is all types of libraries, PLA is specifically for public libraries. He stated that we try to send as many staff members as possible to the PLA Conference because there are specialized speakers and exhibits at this conference that pertain specifically to public libraries.

Thereafter, Mr. Batson advised members of the FCPL Board of Trustees that FCPL has obtained another vehicle. In next year's budget, FCPL was going to request a new vehicle. FCPL already had the funds set aside but FCPL still had to get permission to purchase another vehicle. He noted that as staff contacted Fleet Services in the County, Fleet Services notified library staff that there are some older vehicles that they have that are no longer in use and if the library would pay for the normal maintenance, care, fuel, etc., a vehicle could then become FCPL's vehicle. There was an older Prius that was available so that vehicle is now assigned to FCPL. FCPL now has a Prius in addition to the mini-van that we already had.

Mr. Batson noted that the replacement for Karen Lewns has been hired. Her name is Alisa McLeish. She will start with FCPL on May 2, 2016. She has been living in Singapore for

the last few years. Her husband is in the military and she worked for the Federal Government while they lived in Singapore. They are retiring and moving back to this area and FCPL is very fortunate to be able to hire her. She is highly qualified. In the meantime, Mr. Batson thanked Linda and Julie for keeping things together. Karen left very good instructions. Linda and Julie have been taking care of everything and we are deeply appreciative of that.

Thereafter, Mr. Batson provided information regarding passport income. For the first quarter of 2016, FCPL has taken in \$17,190 from passport processing. The actual breakdown is \$13,125 has been received for processing applications and \$4,065 has been received for photos. He noted that FCPL is very pleased with that. It is above the amount that was budgeted. The budget was very conservative for passports so at this time we are on a good path and we hope that this continues. This revenue stream has been very positive for FCPL.

Mr. Batson thereafter reviewed statistics for February, 2016, which was a very good month. Usage increased by over 5%. This is good because FCPL got hammered by the snowstorm and at this time FCPL is only .5% below where FCPL was last year. Considering the days that FCPL was closed, we are very pleased with the numbers. Some of the busier months are coming up (end of school, summer reading program, etc.). We are on course to continue growing. He noted that last year the public computer usage and wi-fi usage exploded. This year it has slowed down somewhat but the computer usage has gone up by 20% and wi-fi usage has gone up 14%. Through the end of February, computer usage is at 152,819 hours and the wi-fi usage is at 73,022 hours. Self-check is at 80%. This figure includes patron renewing books from home or patrons using self-check at the library. Door counts and patron registrations are down slightly but this can be directly related to the snowstorm. Children's programs increased but attendance dropped slightly and this is also probably due to the snowstorm.

**b. Budget/CIP – Update:** The CIP and budget have been submitted to the County Executive. On April 15, 2016, the County Executive will reveal the County Budget. The County Council will then receive the proposed budget and work on it. On April 19, 2016, the County Council will have a public hearing regarding the budget. The following week, the County Council will be calling in various division/department heads, if they have questions regarding the budget. Thereafter the County Council and County Executive will enter into discussions.

Mr. Batson noted that the session will end in Annapolis next week. He added that he spoke to one of the legislatures and it was noted that it has been a crazy session. There were over 700 more bills introduced this year over last year. One of the library's main defenders in Annapolis is Delegate Sheila Hixson from Montgomery County. She is currently in the hospital which was unexpected. She is a very important part of the team. As of right now, Mr. Batson stated that it looks very good for the \$1,000,000 for the Walkersville facility. There are a couple other library bills, one of which would increase state funding for operational funds. This bill is still in the committee's hands so we are just keeping an eye on everything at this time. Library staff is in constant contact through the Maryland Library Association Legislation Sub-Committee. Mr. Batson noted that he will have the results of everything at the May FCPL Board of Trustees meeting.

Council Member, Tony Chmelik, stated that it seems that there is some misunderstanding of some comments he made. When the County's new Budget Director took office, he came in and was asked to give a quick snippet as to what was to be coming. He had some overall big ticket items that he ran through in a course of ten minutes. One of those items he mentioned was the Walkersville Library. It is important for folks to understand that, as a Council Member, it is our job to oversee. Our job is to look at everything and ask questions. He noted that he asked a question, not because he is against the new library in Walkersville, but because it was the only big ticket item, besides the schools that the Budget Director mentioned in his presentation, and it was used as a reference point as to justifying, which he indicated he will be doing with every department. Council Member Chmelik noted that it does not matter who comes before him this year, he wants justification for the money they are spending. It does not mean that he is against it or whether he is for it but he just wants to know why the money is being spent the way it is being spent. He wanted to clarify that he is not against the Walkersville Library expansion. It just happened to be a point that came out in terms of that discussion. He noted that he used the same example on the radio on Saturday and he thereafter received some lengthy e-mails from people in Walkersville that were a little upset. He added that he is trying to make a point about the responsibilities and roles of Council Members. Mr. Chmelik stated that he takes his job very seriously and what he is suppose to be doing is representing all of the taxpayers of the County and make sure that any monies that are spent, are spent wisely. To that extent, Council Member Chmelik stated that he is not opposed to the expansion of the library but he just wants it understood in the larger picture. He added that he feels pretty confident that the expansion of the Walkersville Library is in the proposed budget and CIP. One of the things that people may not understand is that there is \$1,000,000 coming from the State and the land was donated by Walkersville. There will be questions as to why we are building the Walkersville Library when there are other things that are being neglected such as roads, bridges, the need for new fire and rescue apparatus, etc. Mr. Chmelik noted that this is a legitimate question and his purpose will be for the County Executive and her departments to justify the purchases that they are requesting.

Mr. Batson thanked Council Member Chmelik for his comments. Mr. Chmelik added that he always points out the good things that the library is doing and continuously tell folks how important the library is.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. Summer Reading Program:** Carly Reighard provided an overview of Summer Challenge, FCPL's upcoming summer reading program. Summer Challenge is a county-wide, community focused summer program that encourages people of all ages to read, play and learn. Like last year, FCPL will be teaming up with side-kicks, community partners, and businesses and organizations to offer special programming and exciting experiences both in the library and out in the community. There will also be special Summer Challenge codes displayed in dozens of locations throughout the county. If a code is spotted, it should be written down because it will help one finish the program and earn prizes. This year's theme is Get In the Game - Read. This theme encourages play and movement through sports and games of logic.

Ms. Reighard noted that children who do not read or have access to books over the summer tend to lose between 2 – 3 months of reading achievement. Summer Challenge aims to battle this by putting books in the hands of readers, boost reading achievement and help them create a life-long love of learning.

New this year is Beanstack, an online software which will allow families to log their reading and complete Summer Challenge activities that encourage reading, learning and playing. One of the best parts about Beanstack is that it is available on mobile devices meaning that families can participate from anywhere in the community or from afar. As an added bonus, Beanstack provides unique reading recommendations for children, teens and adults as well as app recommendations.

Although Summer Challenge may have a new look, we have many of the same great features including game boards, the passport to reading, and books for finishers of the Summer Challenge. In conjunction with FCPL's community partners, all libraries throughout Frederick County will be hosting exciting programs for children, teens and adults. Some of these programs include hula-hooping, gardening programs, roller coaster engineering and dance/movement classes. Of course, there will also be reading and fun all summer long.

As far as prizes are concerned, not only do those who complete the Summer Challenge win a book to keep, there are other prizes. For children, there are rubber ducks. For teens, there are ear buds and for adults, wristbands. There will also be many drawings for prizes and experiences throughout the summer. Jessica El-Zeftawy will speak more about the prizes during her presentation later this evening. However, some of the prizes for children are a set of 4 all-day passes to Adventure Park USA. For teens, there will be two beginner skier snowboard packages which include restrictive lift tickets, complete rentals and a 90 minute lesson at Liberty Mountain Resort. For adults, admission for 15 to the Laurel Park Pimlico Racecourse which includes clubhouse passes, reserved seating, parking and a race themed in their honor and a presentation in the winner's circle following the race.

Ms. Reighard thereafter thanked the sponsors of the Summer Challenge: Bruster's Ice Cream of Frederick, Catoctin Wildlife Preserve and Zoo, The Frederick Keys, The Frederick News-Post, Friends of Frederick County Public Libraries and River and Trail Outfitters.

Summer Challenge begins May 1, 2016 and we look forward to seeing everyone at the library.

Ms. Poteat inquired about the roller coaster engineering. Ms. Reighard explained that the roller coaster engineering will be held at Adventure Park USA where everyone can learn about the physics of roller coasters.

**b. Frederick Reads/Frederick Speaker Series/Bollywood:** Donna Bannwolf provided an overview of Frederick Reads. Frederick Reads has been expanded to a month-long program. The poet event was rescheduled this year from Super Bowl Sunday to April, There is a 15-person

committee that has worked behind the scenes to pull the program together. Frederick Reads was officially kicked-off with Erik Larson on Monday, April 4, 2016. Mr. Larson also spoke at FCC on Tuesday, April 5, 2016. She noted that during Mr. Larson's appearance at The Weinberg Center, there were approximately 700 people in attendance and there were approximately 400 people in attendance at FCC as well. Mr. Larson was truly a find for Frederick Reads. This year Frederick Reads went a slightly different direction. Mr. Larson is a non-fiction writer but he is a narrative, non-fiction writer with deep research and his books read like fiction. She thereafter displayed a photograph of the VIP reception for Mr. Larson. The reception was the sole fundraiser and was held at 5:30 p.m. (just before the event). Sixteen tickets were sold for the VIP reception at \$50.00 each. Mr. Larson signed books for those in attendance at the reception. Mr. Larson also had pictures taken with those in attendance at the VIP reception. There was wine available and the reception was catered. All other events for Frederick Reads are free.

Ms. Bannwolf thereafter displayed a photo of Mr. Larson and Mario Bosquez. Mr. Bosquez came in from New York City to interview Mr. Larson. She stated that she is proud to say that they were a great pairing. Mr. Larson told Mr. Bosquez after the interview that he was one of the top three interviewers that he had ever worked with, which is quite a compliment. There was a question and answer session following the interview and there were a lot of people who asked a lot of questions.

Thereafter, Ms. Bannwolf advised that Mr. Bosquez did a community conversation at Hillcrest Elementary on April 5, 2016. This was a slightly different approach. The committee worked with Frederick County Public Schools and they sent home 1,100 flyers with the children that attend Hillcrest Elementary. There were approximately 50 people in attendance which is pretty good for an elementary school event at night. Mr. Bosquez is fluent in Spanish and English so he conducted the community conversation in both languages.

Ms. Bannwolf thereafter noted that the poet event will be held on April 17, 2016 at The Weinberg Center and April 18, 2016 at FCC. Naomi Shihab Nye is the poet for this year. She is a Palestinian-American Poet who refers to herself as the wandering poet because she has travelled all over the world. She brings her experiences to her poetry. She has also written children's books. One of her books is *The Turtle of Oman*, which is used in many elementary and middle schools. The book is about a little boy who originally lived in the Middle East, came to America and about the issues he faced.

D. Bannwolf advised that on April 28, 2016, Jan Jarboe Russell will be appearing at the Urbana Library. Her book, *The Train to Crystal City*, was recently put on the New York Times list. This book is about the internment of Japanese and German families during World War II. Frederick Reads worked together with the Asian Association for this program. On the previous events the committee worked with Centro Hispano and Frederick County Public Schools with the intent to get out and work with our community partners and make the events welcome for everyone.

Ms. Greenway inquired how the pairing of Mr. Larson and Mario Bosquez came about. Ms. Bannwolf stated that she had watched a lot of videos of Mr. Larson on You Tube and noted that

he is a very smart guy. She noted that she wanted someone who could handle the interview but wasn't that well known in Frederick. The key was that Ms. Bannwolf knew that Mario Bosquez had the potential to conduct a great interview because she has known him for quite some time. It was a good pairing. Ms. Greenway noted that in the past there was a thematic approach to the events but this year that seems to be different by having several events that are not necessarily associated with each other. Ms. Bannwolf stated that the idea of a theme was dropped this year because Frederick Reads is in its 11<sup>th</sup> year and we thought it was strong enough to stand on its own but everything did come together. There are a lot of different venues this year and the theme turned out to be more of a historical theme as things came together organically.

Ms. Bannwolf thereafter provided an overview of the Frederick Speaker Series. She noted that she is a member of the committee, which was founded by the Aushermans. The committee works all year to pick a good mix of speakers to give viewers a little bit of everything. FCPL is fortunate enough to be the recipient of funds from the various "Meet and Greets" for the Speaker Series. It is critical to have the right mix of speakers. Sometimes people come to see the speakers but are not necessarily interested in meeting them up close and personally so we want to be sure that is offset. Daniel Pink was the first speaker. He was magnificent. He spoke about the books he has written on business. Henry Winkler and Marlee Matlin spoke at the second event for the Speaker Series and they spoke about the topic of mentoring. Brian Stevenson will be speaking on April 14, 2016 and George Takei will be speaking on May 2, 2016.

The last thing addressed by Ms. Bannwolf was a film production that was held in the library. The film production company is out of Bollywood, which is India's version of Hollywood. The library was approached as a venue. She displayed photos of the actual shooting of the various scenes. The tie into Frederick is that there is a woman in Middletown who actually helped finance the film. She had written a book that this film is actually based on. The working title, What is Life? or A Little Heaven in Me, might change but one of the premieres is going to be in Mumbai and the other is going to be in Frederick, Maryland. Filming was actually done in the children's and teen's sections. The film crew was in the library for about three hours.

Ms. Bannwolf then displayed the total of what FCPL will receive monetarily from the various fundraising events:

Frederick Reads	\$ 800
Frederick Speaker Series	\$17,325
Bollywood Filming	\$ 500

Ms. Poteat thanked Donna Bannwolf and all the staff involved with these events. Ms. Poteat stated that the event on Monday night with Erik Larson was terrific.

Ms. Manny inquired how the committee decides who to pursue for these events. Ms. Bannwolf stated that the choices are done by a committee. Once a number of individuals are chosen, Ms. Bannwolf stated that she and Mindy Andros from the Public Relations Department watch extensive videos of the performances of the various individuals. We want to make sure that they

relate to the audience and they paint a clear picture of what they do and that they don't talk over anyone's head. There are a lot of different elements that go into selecting an author but the committee is who actually selects the author. For the Speaker Series, there are about 10 – 12 individuals who meet every month throughout the entire year. We try to get a good mix of people who may be into science, business, entertainment, etc. so that it is not slanted towards one type of audience.

Ms. Smith noted that she purchases a subscription to the Speaker Series. She stated that it is just like her book club because she listens to individuals that she would never have thought to go listen to and they are very entertaining. Ms. Bannwolf stated to be able to get a book signed and shake the hand of the various speakers and authors is truly exciting and a gift to Frederick.

**c. Urbana Film Festival:** Bryan Hissong provided information on the Starlight Family Film Festival. On four evenings over the course of the summer, the Urbana Regional Library will invite people to gather together under the stars to enjoy some fun, family films. It is an outdoor film festival. Staff is working with FunFlicks who has been hired to set up/take down everything that is needed. FunFlicks will provide a huge inflatable screen and the sound equipment that is needed and they will take care of projecting the movies as well. Community members are invited to attend and bring a blanket and some snacks/take-out from a local restaurant. Everything is free. The Friends of the Urbana Regional Library will be selling popcorn to heighten the movie experience and this will be a fundraiser. Through our strong partnership with the Villages of Urbana, we are looking to have some family friendly activities beforehand as well. Rita's Italian Ice will be handing out their latest and greatest concoction (natural, healthy and fat-free) for everyone to try. Mr. Hissong reviewed the names/dates of the films that will be part of the film festival:

Cinderella (2015)	June 23, 2016
The LEGO Movie	July 7, 2016
Big Hero 6	July 21, 2016
Audience Choice	August 4, 2016

In closing, Mr. Hissong thanked FCPL partners and the generous donors that are helping with this event. It is the generosity of our partners and donors that make events like this happen. The Starlight Family Film Festival will be lots of fun and bring members of the community together. It will be great to make memories with friends and family.

Ms. Smith inquired as to what day of the week the movies will be shown. Mr. Hissong stated that all of the movies will be shown on Thursday evenings at dusk. Ms. Greenway inquired if this is the first time that this has been done. Mr. Hissong stated that this is correct. Ms. Manny inquired whether the movies will be shown on the grounds of the Urbana Regional Library. Mr. Hissong stated that it will be held behind the library. The Villages of Urbana have been kind enough to let FCPL use the area around the Natelli Community Center. There is a playground there that kids can use before the event and there is a sloping green area where folks can spread out.



**d. Development Office Report:** Jessica El-Zeftawy, Development Officer for Frederick County Public Libraries, noted that she will be providing a few updates this evening. First of all she provided her e-mail ([Jel-Zeftawy@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:Jel-Zeftawy@frederickcountymd.gov)) and phone number (301-600-1052) in case anyone needs to reach her for any reason. Thereafter, she advised that Talbots, a women's boutique located in downtown Frederick, will be hosting three fundraising events this summer. This is a great opportunity and FCPL is very lucky to have been chosen to be one of the recipients of the three fundraising events. Ten percent (10%) of the total purchases made on Thursday, May 26, 2016 from 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. will benefit FCPL. This event is not just shopping; it is shopping for a good cause.

Ms. El-Zeftawy thereafter highlighted some of FCPL's successes with the Summer Challenge. This major event serves as a model as to how libraries continue to be leaders in the community by creating exceptional partnerships with local businesses and to provide quality programs and services to Frederick County residents. This year FCPL has 103 sidekicks and mission-site partners. These are businesses that have agreed to put our materials in their spaces. Some of the businesses will be hosting programs in their establishments or they will be coming into the library and sharing their expertise with our patrons. There is great diversity in the 103 sidekicks and mission-site partners from the Brunswick Police Department to the Emmitsburg Tattoo Company and all the way to Kicks Karate.

This year the Summer Challenge also has 58 donors. These are businesses that have provided items that will serve as incentive prizes for FCPL patrons who register for Summer Challenge and achieve their goals. The Baltimore Orioles have donated a baseball signed by J. J. Hardy, an impressive athlete and short stop. Larriland Farms donated a "pick your own adventure" where the lucky winner will be able to pick ten pounds of peaches, five pounds of blackberries, two pounds of raspberries, and five pounds of blueberries. This is a great family summer activity. Medieval Times has donated 16 tickets so the winners can enjoy dinner and some jousting. She noted that the Summer Challenge also has 10 sponsors this year. Bruster's Ice Cream will donate free ice cream to every patron who completes the Summer Challenge. It is expected that thousands of people will complete the Summer Challenge and Bruster's has come on board to recognize their achievement by giving those individuals free ice cream. Both the Catocin Zoo and Frederick Keys will be providing admission tickets to those individuals who register to participate in the Summer Challenge. River and Trail Outfitters has donated 63 rafting trips to serve as prizes for the Summer Challenge. She also thanked the Friends of Frederick County Public Libraries and the Frederick News-Post for underwriting the event. Thereafter she thanked the College Savings Plan of Maryland, Curious Iguana, The Dancing Bear and Wonder Book and Video for agreeing to support the Summer Challenge.

Ms. El-Zeftawy stated that by providing support beyond public funding for library programs and services, our partners, donors and sponsors make a tremendous difference in how we live, learn and teach in Frederick County.

Thereafter, Ms. El-Zeftawy stated that since she started in December, 2015, she has been out in

the community interviewing people and collecting stories on how FCPL has made a difference in the lives of our patrons. In fact, she stated that she has interviewed a number of people in the room this evening and wanted to share one of the stories with everyone. Last summer there was a four year old boy named Jackson. He attended evening story time in Thurmont every single week. He would also come to many of the special events throughout the summer when his mom could get off of work and bring him to the events. Ms. El-Zeftawy stated that when she spoke with Jackson's mother, his mother stated she was so thankful for FCPL story times and the summer events because she felt that her son had learned the skills he needed to prepare him for school since she couldn't pay for pre-school. Ms. El-Zeftawy stated that she has a son who she brings to Babies with Books on Tuesdays and this story really stuck with her. She can imagine that Jackson's story is not just one but one of many of how the programs and services that FCPL provides impacts our patrons. Our work makes a difference.

Ms. El-Zeftawy stated that reading exercises the brain and helps to develop imagination, enhances language skills, supports self-discovery, and allows people to discover new and exciting things. She noted that as recent studies have shown, children who participate in public library summer reading programs score higher on reading achievement tests and begin the school year with more confidence. Here at FCPL we are committed to providing a free summer reading program that is open to the public and inspires every patron to love reading and learning. She requested everyone to help FCPL support our goal by making a gift to the 2016 Summer Challenge. She further noted that for \$25.00 you can sponsor a child this summer by providing them with the materials and books necessary to complete Summer Challenge. When you give the gift of reading, your gift makes a tremendous difference. It makes a difference in Jackson's life and the lives of many in our community. If you would like to make a gift, you can check out FCPL's website ([www.fcpl.org](http://www.fcpl.org)) and learn about the many ways you can support FCPL. There is a "Make a Gift Now" button on the website or you can send a check to the Administrative Offices of Frederick County Public Libraries located at 110 E. Patrick Street, Frederick, MD 21701. Please be sure to put "Summer Challenge" in the memo section of your check and staff will take care of it from there.

Ms. El-Zeftawy again thanked everyone for their time and support and stated that she hopes to see everyone at the many events that are taking place this summer.

Ms. Greenway inquired whether the Summer Challenge is part of the annual summer reading club. Ms. El-Zeftawy stated that last year the summer reading program was called the Summer of Wonder. Since then it has gone through a series of rebranding and this year the summer reading program is called the Summer Challenge.

Ms. Greenway stated that she thought this was a free program and inquired if she was wrong about that. Ms. El-Zeftawy stated that Summer Challenge is free. Ms. Greenway inquired further as to why people would be donating \$25.00 to support a child to go through the program if it was free. It is free for people to participate. The \$25.00 donation would enable FCPL to provide the materials for all of the patrons that participate (children, teens and adults). Ms. Greenway stated that a donation of \$25.00 is not supporting a specific student but just throwing

money in the hat. Ms. El-Zeftawy stated that FCPL estimates the cost of purchasing book/materials is about \$25.00 per participant and the money would go to purchasing items such as that. Ms. Greenway stated that she wanted to be certain that an individual that would give \$25.00 is not being paired with a specific child. Mr. Batson stated that the more resources FCPL receives, we can reach more children. There are a lot of children that don't have a lot of advantages and it takes more resources for FCPL to provide materials for these children. FCPL wants to get out into more areas where perhaps there are not as many opportunities. This is just another way for FCPL to expand our programming. Donations to the Summer Challenge will give FCPL more ability to get out into the communities.

Ms. Greenway inquired whether FCPL is still selling t-shirts. Mr. Batson stated that FCPL no longer sells t-shirts. Unfortunately, the last few years when FCPL sold t-shirts, the sales did not do well and FCPL was actually going into the hole so a decision was made to discontinue the sale of t-shirts at this time.

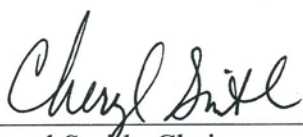
**BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:** T. Chmelik thanked all members that serve on the FCPL Board of Trustees as well as other Board Members. Board Members do so much for our community. He noted that most Board Members have other jobs/commitments but they sacrifice their time to support our community.

**OTHER CITIZEN REMARKS:** None.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the C. Burr Artz Library – 110 E. Patrick Street, Frederick, MD.

C. Greenway made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by T. Kutz . No discussion.  
VOTE: Unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



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Cheryl Smith, Chair  
Frederick County Public Libraries Board of Trustees