Alexandria Monroe Public Library Meeting Minutes: August 21, 2025

1. Call to Order- Meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM by Laura Rowe, Vice President. Members present include Marnie Zeller, John Dockrey (showed up late at 6:27 PM), Laura Jean Rowe, Jill Thomas, and Kim Terry. Members absent included Missy Giles.

2. Approval of last month's meeting reports (a-d): Kim made a motion to approve. Marnie seconded. Board approved.

3. Old Business
   a) Lights: on order. Should be here in 1-3 weeks. Going with Parker. The problem could be a bad batch of lights!
   b) Director Contract: Jill motioned to shelve until next month's meeting. Monica seconded. Board approved.

4. Park Board Representative Report
   a) Kim stated that the Alex public pool had a very good season. Eric Freeman wants to help the Park Board with their 5 year plan. They want to concentrate on Harrison Street and the downtown area.

5. New Business-
   a) 5 Year Plan: Due in October. There is an online template that can be used. Or do we use a consultant? Some ideas thrown around for the plan: Computer Tree and server redone; work more closely with the Historical Society; grow the children's Spanish language section; better Wi-Fi; more with the homeschooling group; Podcast room; meeting rooms for the public to use; and an AI lab. Brad will obtain the blueprint of the library for the Board to start looking at and come up with ideas with how to use the space. The Board should come to the next meeting with ideas and thoughts!!

6. Director's Report: All banks have balanced.

   Administration: Brad was accepted to the ILF Management Cohort Series for Directors and Aspiring Directors. The cost is $175 and consists of 8 interactive Zoom sessions from late August to early December. Brad will be attending the Leadership Academy of Madison County for the 2025-2026 session. (Jill will also be attending). Laura mentioned that maybe the Board can be updated after each Leadership meeting.

   Tech Services: n/a

   Maintenance and repairs: Lights were inspected by Nugent Electric. They think it might be a bad batch of bulbs because they had the same problem. Nugent suggested staying with Parker since the parts would still be under warranty. AC unit was replaced based on

recommendations from Summers Heating and Air and Betz Heating and Cooling. Betz was chosen for the job due to lowest bid and prompt service.
The Front Door will not close properly. It needs a new motor. We might need to cut into the drywall to get to it. Fix or get a new door?? Brad will contact companies to get some bids. The Board would like this to be completed by mid-October.

Adult Services: In-Service Day was held during the morning half of Monday, August 11, 2025 and it was a great chance to recap without interruptions! The staff started discussing Christmas décor and the Christmas parade.

Programming and Youth Outreach: Staff Attended the Back to School Bash at the Alexandria schools, St. Mary's, and the First Baptist Church. The Library has already received over a dozen applications from students for new library cards!

7. Librarian's Report: Door count down. For the most part, counts are down.

8. Treasurer's Report
    a) Financial Report: Banks are balanced. There was an interest gain of $3421 with a 4.2937% yield.
    Brad has a meeting next week with a Library field representative for the budget. Sarah will sit in on it.
    b) Register of Claims: Jill motioned to pay claims 282-333. John seconded. Board approved.

9. Announcements: John reminded Brad, for the future, that the Board must approve any changes in meeting dates and it must be on the Agenda. Kim spoke to Missy. Missy is going to resign from the Board due to health issues and will need to be replaced.

10. Public Comments: None

11. Adjournment: Jill made the motion to adjourn at 7:26 PM. Monica seconded. Board approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Marnie Zeller

Next meeting date: Thursday, September 11 at 6 pm.