

**ANDERSON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE CALLED MEETING
Monday, June 16, 2025 | 5:30 pm | Meeting Room ABC**

Present: Chair Wendy Tucker, Andrew Cacossa, Nicole Davenport, Angela Dixon, Albert “Howie” Howard, Jimmy Johnson, Kelly Moon, Pinkey Rinnix, Frances Saville

Staff Present: Annie Sutton, Library Director; Jane Cornelius, Head of Finance

CALL TO ORDER & INVOCATION

Board Chair Tucker called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Jimmy Johnson gave the invocation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was heard as follows:

1. Jessicka Spearman Childs [5]: Harmful policies; targeting; actual threats caused by local legislators
2. Susan Melvin [5]: Freedom to read; changes to ACL Collection Development Policy, parental oversight
3. Howard Rigby [5]: Concerns to changes to Coll. Development Policy; staff input/thoughts on policy
4. Katherine Wyma [5]: Concerns to changes in Coll. Development Policy; book examples, staff support
5. Barbara DuCharme [5]: Parental oversight; all beliefs are equal in value
6. Jenny Pray [1]: Clarification for SC Law statement in Coll. Development Policy; Board intent
7. Mary Kay [4]: Parental responsibility; too much time spent on policy
8. Melissa Welborn [1]: Changes to Coll. Devel. Policy; support for ALA; banning books; staff impact
9. Robert Mecke [5]: Microphones for each member; Reconsidered book section on card application
10. Jonathan Wyma [5]: Concerns over changes to Coll. Dev. Policy; reading changes perception

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Board reviewed the Special Policy Committee’s recommendations for the Library’s Collection Development Policy and Library Card Application Form.

Revisions to ACL Collection Development Policy [Action]: Andy Cacossa motioned to approve the revisions to the Collection Development Policy and Jimmy Johnson seconded. Chair Tucker opened the floor for discussion. Director Sutton asked for clarification for the phrase, “Any book that is under reconsideration in the Juvenile or Teen Collection will require explicit parental consent for checkout.” After discussion, Chair Tucker called for a motion to amend the phrase to say, “*Any book that has been or is under request for reconsideration in the Juvenile and Teen Collection will require explicit parental consent for checkout.*” Jimmy Johnson so moved and Pinkey Rinnix seconded. The motion carried with 7 members in favor and 2 members opposed. Nicole Davenport made a motion to further amend the statement to say, “*Any book that has been or is currently under request for reconsideration in the Juvenile/Teen Collection will require explicit written parental consent for checkout, as established in the Library Card Application.*” Jimmy Johnson seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Chair Tucker asked if there was further discussion on the Collection Development Policy. Nicole Davenport made a motion to strike the sentence, “*The Juvenile and Teen Collection should not contain materials that influence or promote action by a minor that is contrary to South Carolina law.*” Frances Saville seconded. During discussion, Director Sutton reiterated her concern on how to enforce this section of the policy. After discussion, Chair Tucker called for a vote and the motion failed with two board members voting in favor and seven members voting against.

Nicole Davenport made a motion to update the statement in the Collection Development Policy to say, “*The Anderson County Library does not offer any books or materials that appeal to the prurient interest of children under the age of seventeen in the Juvenile or Teen sections of the Library. Books with a suggested age range of 18+ are only made available with explicit parental consent through the Library Card Application.*” Frances Saville seconded.

After discussion, Nicole Davenport amended her motion to change the language in the Collection Development Policy to read, *“The Anderson County Library does not offer any books or materials that appeal to the prurient interest of children ages seventeen or under in the Juvenile or Teen sections of the Library. Books with a suggested age range of 18+ are only made available with explicit parental consent through the Library Card Application.”* Chair Tucker called for a vote. The motion passed with eight members voting in favor and one member voting against.

Nicole Davenport made a motion to change the words “customers” and “he/she” throughout the policy to the word “patrons” when referring to patrons. Jimmy Johnson seconded. Chair Tucker called for a vote. The motion passed with eight members voting in favor and one member voting against.

Board Members asked for clarification concerning the Request for Reconsideration Form. The form will be added to the website and active Library cardholders may submit forms in person or via email. The Library will accept one request at a time from a cardholder or a group.

The motion to approve the revised Collection Development Policy remained on the floor. Chair Tucker called for a vote, and the motion carried with Andy Cacossa, Angela Dixon, Howie Howard, Jimmy Johnson, Kelly Moon, Pinkey Rinnix, Wendy Tucker voting in favor, and Nicole Davenport and Frances Saville voting against.

Revisions to ACL Library Card Application [Action]: Andy Cacossa motioned to approve the updated Library Card Application Form, and Angela Dixon seconded. Chair Tucker opened the floor for discussion. Having no discussion, the Board voted, and the motion carried with Andy Cacossa, Nicole Davenport, Angela Dixon, Howie Howard, Jimmy Johnson, Kelly Moon, Pinkey Rinnix, Wendy Tucker voting in favor, and Frances Saville voting against.

NEW BUSINESS

Director Sutton asked for clarification on a time frame for implementing the new policy and application form. Director Sutton said that staff training should be done by the Regular September Meeting, but changing the labels on the Teen collection may take longer. The Board agreed that the September time frame was reasonable for completing staff training.

Chair Tucker thanked Director Sutton for the successful opening celebration for the new Iva Branch Library on May 30. Many Board Members were able to attend the event, and Director Sutton thanked the Board for showing their support.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Tucker asked for a motion to adjourn. Angela Dixon so moved, and Andrew Cacossa seconded. All were in favor. Chair Tucker declared the meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.

The next regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 14, 2025, at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Cacossa
Board Secretary/Treasurer

Approved 07.14.2025 [MW]