



Fayette County Public Library Board Meeting June 17, 2025

Fayette County Public Library

THE FAYETTE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD met on June 17, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. in the Electronic Learning Lab (ELL) Room of the Fayette County Public Library, 1821 Heritage Park Way Fayetteville, GA 30214.

MEMBERS PRESENT: *Zulema Green, Chair*
 Davina Taylor, Vice-Chair
 Kim Bradley
 Gail Joiner
 J.T Rabun

MEMBERS ABSENT: *Denise Stripling*
 Page McDonald

STAFF PRESENT: *Michelle Bennett-Copeland, Fayette County Library Director*
 Chris Mallory, Board Secretary and Library Administrative Assistant

GUESTS: *Natalie Marshall, Director, Flint River Regional Library System (FRRLS)*
 Lauren Ogletree, Business Manager, Flint River Regional Library (FRRLS)

I.) CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Zulema Green called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

II.) Approval of Minutes of April 2025 Meeting

The minutes from October to be considered for approval were put forth by Board Chair Zulema Green. Board member J.T Rabun motioned to approve the minutes with the following correction for a book title. The corrected title of the

author's book is "A Devil went down to Georgia" (February Author's Visit). Vice-Chair Davina Taylor seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

III.) Michelle Bennett-Copeland, Library Director, Fayette County Public Library

- Summer Reading – "Color our World". The first couple of weeks have been very successful and the programs have been well attended
- Zoo Atlanta Pass has been discontinued for library patrons.
- The Juneteenth Program will take place on June 21, 2025 at 1PM in the large meeting room.
- New Library Staff member – Our new staff member's name is Valdoshia Hunt and she will be the librarian overseeing the Electronic Resources.
- Summer Intern- We have a Summer Intern. They will be taking on some of the responsibilities of a library assistant during their 5-week paid internship.
- August 1 – September 1~ The library will have an amnesty fine program for the start of the school year and will soon be promoting this event.
- Books on Wheels Program is still ongoing. The last delivery was for 15 citizens. They will soon add coloring sheets, puzzles, and other items along with their book deliveries.

IV.) Natalie Marshall, Director, Flint River Regional Library System (FRRLS)

- Digital Connectivity Grant – On Wednesday, May 21, all library systems were informed by GPLS that the US treasury, the origin of the funds for the Digital Connectivity Grant, had retroactively rescinded their permission to spend the funds for recurring charges including Hot Spot data and filtering. Even though GPLS initially identified some potential state sources of funding to cover what had already been expended, on Wednesday, June 4, the University System of Georgia disallowed GPLS from seeking or using any state funds to make library systems whole for expended funding. We have sent in our reimbursement requests for the purchase of the hotspots and for the data up to that point. The FRRLS Regional Board voted on Monday, June 16 to continue funding for the Digital Connectivity hotspots and sunset the older ARPA hotspots.
- IMLS Funding: GPLS has received their full fund allocation and award letter for FY25 IMLS funds, which runs through September 30, 2026. Thus far there is no substantial IMLS funding in the current federal planning budget, only \$6M to "wind down" the agency.
- Below are some stats for the current fiscal year to date across the Flint River Region.
 - We have added over 7,000 new patrons

- Circulated more than 600,000 items
- 200,000 wi-fi sessions
- 500,000 in-person visits
- Regional Hot Spot circulations - 2,082

V.) Library Representative Report (FRRLS Branches)

- Tyrone – Summer Reading Program. The number of registered summer reading participants has already surpassed last year’s total. Tyrone is only doing Paper Summer Reading Logs this year because of a recent survey showing that patrons enjoyed the paper logs more than the Electronic App “Beanstack” for tracking their reading time.
- Brooks Public Library – Bingo Program. Maggie Awards – The Director Debbie Kaufman is looking for new judges. You do have to work in the library or directly with books in some capacity to be a judge.

VI.) New Business

The proposal to have paperless agenda and minutes was put forth by Vice-Chair Davina Taylor. Board Chair Zulema Green motioned to have paperless agenda and minutes for library board meetings. They will be sent before the meeting. The minutes as always will be posted on the Library’s County website under the Board section. Board Member Gail Joiner motioned to have paperless agendas and minutes. Vice-Chair Davina Taylor seconded the motion. The proposal passed with a unanimous vote.

VII.) Board Chair Zulema Green called for a motion to adjourn the board meeting.

The motion to adjourn at 4:33 p.m. was called by Board Chair Zulema Green and the library board seconded the motion unanimously.

The next Library Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday October 21, 2025, at 4 PM at the Fayette County Public Library.

ATTEST:

_____*Chris Mallory*_____

Chris Mallory
Board Secretary