1. **Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum**

Ms. Griffith called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and declared there was quorum.

Present:
- Garima Chaturvedi
- Leza Griffith
- Kendra Hart
- Joyce Muller
- David Peloquin

Staff Present:
- Andrea Berstler
- Angelique Broussard
- Jill Edelen
- Karen Gonsman
- Bob Kuntz
- Greta McNally
- Christina Ogle
- Lisa Picker
- Stephanie Szymanski
- Joe Thompson

2. **Westminster Branch Report**

Westminster Branch Manager, Christina Ogle, presented the Westminster Branch Report called Transitioning Back. The Westminster branch has been opened but their transition from COVID was held up due to closures for lower-level construction. The Return to Programming included lots of programs with themes around pirates, STEM, crafting, and Paws to Read. Westminster’s Library Associate Training Institute (LATI) graduates created wonderful projects for their class: LA – Adult Joy Zimmer created a family board game night that is being shared with the new local brew pub. Hannah Bator’s project was to use an Arts Council grant to create community art with community artists and for Paint Night programs that are being presented at other branches. Staff members Liz Jones and Tina Mawhinney partnered with Exploration Commons for paper piercing and a baking program. Partnerships in the Community included McDaniel College’s Westminster Welcome with 500+ Freshmen gathered in the Library park, a new community theater company held their ribbon cutting on the deck in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce, Human Services Program (HSP) held their financial literacy event, Carroll Cash Day at the branch and the branch hosted their Gingerbread Festival entries. Due to staff participation in the Downtown Partnership they were able to connect with Access Carroll as a best place to distribute test kits, Liz Jones is on the City’s Bee City Committee and held a pollinator plant program. The branch is front and center for all the strolls that bring thousands of people downtown. There is always a band on the deck and the park is incredibly well used including for this year’s Tuba Christmas program. Along with Exploration Commons and Outreach, the branch participated in the Fall Fest and Holiday parades. The City’s Santa’s Treat was held at the branch with local school bands providing entry music for Mr. and Mrs. Claus. Connecting with Customers has included a Battle of the Books Brackets contest by Mary Honeman; staff scrabble letter Halloween costumes and assisting a young autistic man in his 20s who is learning to read and breaking barriers in asking staff for help. The staff also got help for a woman and her children who appeared to have been dropped at the branch and needed a place to sleep that night. A long-time customer named Joe passed away and his family came to tell the staff how much Joe loved coming to the library and the staff told them how much they enjoyed when he visited. The branch never had a Teen Area and this year furniture was purchased to create one, as soon as it arrived kids started using it. Then there is the story of Tyler who is autistic and wanted the same shelving that the library has for its DVDs for his own collection. Library staff including Joe Thompson and Bob Kuntz helped with finding what Tyler’s mom would need to give Tyler this shelving for Christmas.
County Food Sunday. They have a lot of new members this year and they are looking forward to their meetings.

7. Executive Director’s Report

Ms. Berstler noted from the report these items: we plan to work with Commissioner Rothstein and Senator Ready on workforce development. On Thursday, December 15, newly elected officials will be visiting at Exploration Commons and will get to see what libraries are about. There is a possibility of trying to get some State funding to help with Exploration Commons staff. Ms. Griffith asked to be kept in the loop since that State agency is one of her work clients. Ms. Berstler and Ms. Townsley will attend Winter MACO to highlight library partnerships. Mr. Kuntz and Ms. Berstler will attend the June ALA conference to present on Exploration Commons. It was noted that most county library systems do not participate in MACO but CCPL assists the Maryland Library Association with their booth in the summer. Westminster library associate Amy Miller Meyers’ plays Sneaks the Maryland Reading Mascot and most of our commissioners and governor-elect Wes Moore got photos taken with Sneaks this past year.

8a. Board Resolution

Ms. Edelen reported that she is looking into switching purchasing cards to ones that work with our accounting software – it will work much easier. The company she is working with needs a Board resolution authorizing her to start talks with them. They are getting information that they need from their legal people. The resolution will be brought to the Board at a future meeting.

8b. Proclamation – David Peloquin

Joyce Muller read a proclamation to honor Mr. Peloquin for his service to the Board of Trustees. This meeting was Mr. Peloquin’s last meeting on the Board. Ms. Muller presented a copy of The Road to Serfdom to honor Mr. Peloquin’s time on the Board and it will be placed in the library’s collection.

8c. January 2023 Meeting

Ms. Berstler said it doesn’t look like there will be any business to bring to the Board in January and asked the Board to consider canceling the meeting.

Ms. Chaturvedi moved to cancel the scheduled January 2023 meeting. Ms. Muller seconded. Approval was unanimous.

Ms. Griffith passed the gavel to incoming President, Dr. Kendra Hart.

9. Adjournment

Ms. Muller moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Chaturvedi seconded. Approval was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.