

**James L. Hamner Public Library
Board of Trustees
Policy Committee Meeting
August 12, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 3:45 p.m. Phil Seyfried and Karen Freas were present, along with library director Jill Hames.

Karen Freas asked many questions about existing policy and procedure regarding minors registering for library accounts and about the newly approved digital-only account.

Jill Hames reported that she had sent out an e-mail to all public libraries in Virginia. Of those that responded, the consensus was that minors need to have an adult sign the registration form.

She also called the libraries in all the surrounding counties and asked, "At what age may a minor get a library account without an adult present?"

Chesterfield: 18

- The legal guardian must be present with the minor. She did not know if the adult needed ID.
- Sometimes registration forms are given to a class at school. Students may take these forms home for guardians to sign. This is the only time Chesterfield libraries allow minors to register for library accounts without their adult physically present.

Powhatan: 18

- The minor may take the form home, but the adult must be present with the minor before a card is issued. Jill did not know if the adult needed ID.

Farmville: 18

- The legal guardian must be present with the minor and have ID.
- Students in a group home may register for a library account if their teacher will sign the form.

Cumberland: 18

- The minor may take the form home to be signed, but the adult must be in the library with the minor before the account is activated.
- During summer school, students may register themselves for a 1-month account.

Nottoway: 7th Grade

- Nottoway does not attempt to recover lost items, therefore, there is no reason for an adult to accept financial responsibility for what the minor borrows.

The policy committee's recommendation is that no changes be made to the current policy.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.