



Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library
Board Meeting Minutes, April 19, 2017

Board members present: Sandy Bradley, Peggy Johnson, Carol Pearson, Roy Parris, Vicki Siegel, Helen Ferguson and Barbara Lupei. **Library Administrator:** Charissa Wagner. **Guests:** Mary Anne Arnold and Janice Norcross.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. The agenda was amended and approved. The minutes of the March 15, 2017 meeting were approved.

Librarian's Report: Charissa Wagner reported

- "We Talk Tech So You Tick" grant update: The digital literacy classes have had good attendance. The classes end in May. The instructors plan to add an additional class on using Gmail. They may add more classes on their own time to cover Facebook, Excel, and more in-depth coverage of Word. A display near the circulation desk features books purchased with grant funds. The two chairs excessed to make room for the new, wired chairs have been sent to Rathbun. She is now trying to configure room for 3 crescent shaped tables that are 6 or 7 feet long. These will be powered when fully installed for use of laptops and cell phones.
- She and the staff are working on a new wish list for this year.
- Plans for the Summer Reading Program are developing nicely. KCL is paying for two programs, a magician and a puppet show. She has scheduled the bubble guy. KCL is putting more emphasis on adult reading so she would like to get more people involved. Sandy suggested a big poster and Roy suggested a mention in the upcoming FRBL newsletter plus an email to FRBL members closer to the start date. Adults who read 10 books get a finisher bag and are eligible for prizes. The Summer Reading Program starts on June 6th and runs until school starts if supplies hold out.
- The library is partnering with the Maturango Museum to host a Glow Run this summer. Proceeds will be split by the two organizations. Last year the library raised \$900 for teen activities. The museum plans to use any funds raised for children's programs. They need sponsors. A logo for each sponsor will go on the t-shirts and be featured on the large LED screen at the event.
- She passed out information about a fundraising workshop that will be held at the Tulare Library on April 29th. The fee is \$35.
- She will have a table at the Children's Fair in Jackson Park on April 22 from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- The next pub trivia event is scheduled for June 13th. They are taking sign-ups ahead of time because more people are coming every month and they may need the bigger room.

President's Report: Sandy Bradley reported

- She received a letter from WACOM announcing they have chosen the Friends to receive a donation. They didn't mention the amount. Roy will attend their meeting on May 9th at 11:00 a.m. to represent FRBL and receive the check.

Treasurer's Report: Helen Ferguson reported

- She distributed copies of the financial status report dated March 31, 2017 and pointed out that donations have been received from United Way for \$351.19 and from Pizza Factory for \$75.

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- She announced that the spring book sale brought in a total of \$3,710.20. The net from books was \$3,483.20 and the balance of \$227.00 was made up of memberships and sales of bags, t-shirts, and note cards.
- Peggy shared the sales room report. Money collected by FRBL volunteers in the room totaled \$386.65. This does not include funds collected from the boxes.

Vice-President, Book Sales Report: vacant position, Sandy Bradley reported

- Janice Norcross volunteered to chair the fall sale. Sandy will provide the task list and timing info she put together in the spring. Mary Anne offered to help as time allows. Janice is on the annex team and they will be able to help as well.
- The dates were discussed and Sept. 23rd and 30th were selected.

Vice-President, Membership Report: Carol Pearson reported

- Since our last meeting there have been 0 new members and 2 renewals. She will be sending out 30 renewal reminders soon.

Newsletter: Deadline for next newsletter – April 28, 2017. Two topics discussed were considered good topics for the upcoming newsletter: condition of book donations and encouraging adults to sign up for the Summer Reading Program. Sandy said she would take this task.

Old Business:

- Still no word from Wal-Mart on our grant request.
- New membership forms (brochures) are available. There are currently 40 in the library, Sandy has 25, and Barbara has about 32. If you need any for events contact Barbara.
- Sandy has developed two letters, one targeted for businesses and one for non-profit organizations, to encourage them to join the friends and/or sponsor a Little Free Library for \$500. The first letters have been sent to local branches of NFCU and AAUW.
- Other projects we could consider including are the outdoor signboard or a Library in a Box for Inyokern.

New Business:

- Sandy announced that both museums (Maturango Museum and the China Lake Museum) are also interested in maker spaces. She suggested that we consider a co-project with the museums.
- Children's t-shirts were discussed and it was decided that Terri Middlemiss would be asked to order an assortment of sizes and colors. Some attendees suggested that we also ask Terri if individual items can be ordered along with the bulk item orders, such as V-neck styles or other colors.
- People have requested classes on social media apps Instagram, Facebook and Twitter. Charissa said the tech class instructors would be interested in adding social media classes even though they are not covered by the grant. She will follow up with them.
- Conference calls have been suggested as alternative ways to attend meetings. Charissa will check to see what options the library has to enable this option. It might also be possible to conference on cell phones if necessary.
- Vicki Siegel asked if the board would support planning of a bus trip to the LA Times Festival of Books in April 2018. She said the bus would have to be reserved far in advance. Roy stated that this project might not be a fundraiser, but it would likely break even. All agreed that we would review again at August or September meeting.

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Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. Members were encouraged to eat lunch at Pizza Factory to support the fundraiser.

The next Board meeting will be **Wednesday, May 17, 2017**, at 10:00 a.m. at the Ridgecrest Library Community Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Lupei, Secretary