



**Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library**  
Board Meeting Minutes, February 21, 2018

**Board members present:** Sandy Bradley, Carol Pearson, Vicki Siegel, Nani Banks, Patricia Walters and Barbara Lupei. **Library Administrator:** Charissa Wagner. **Guests:** Mary Anne Arnold and Mary Atkinson. The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. The agenda was amended and approved. (The order was changed to allow Mary to speak first since she could not stay for the entire meeting. That discussion is reported under New Business.) The minutes of the January, 2018 meeting were approved.

**Librarian's Report:** Charissa Wagner reported

- Magazine covers and magazine racks for the patron reading area have been purchased, as approved last month, the Bill Eichenberg memorial funds. Approximately \$600.00 remains in the fund.
- Also on order are 4 tables for the public area. These tables have flip down tops that will be helpful when rearranging furniture for events.
- The Summer Reading Program (SRP) theme is "Reading Takes You Everywhere" and it will have an emphasis on travel. The puppet show, magician, and bubble show are scheduled.
- The SRP in Inyokern will be carried on, after Terri Middlemiss' retirement, by the Preceptor Lambda Chi sorority in coordination with Charissa and the Inyokern school. Board member Patricia Walters is a member of the sorority. Charissa was able to book the bubble show and puppet show for Inyokern, but not the magician, who will not be here on a Wednesday.
- Talks with SSUSD are in the works considering serving a free lunch to children at the library during the summer. Some branches in the Bakersfield area already offer this community service during the summer, Tuesdays through Fridays. The plan would be for the food to be prepared, delivered, and served by SSUSD staff. They would collect a fee of \$3.00 for adults. Volunteers would be needed for set-up and clean-up. The meal would be served in the community room.

**President's Report:** Sandy Bradley reported

- All three Little Free Libraries (LFL) have been installed. A steward is still needed for the one in Gold Canyon. Altrusa is putting up two more in the community. She will give a presentation on LFLs to High Desert Haven on March 8th at 3:00 p.m.
- The final budget numbers for 2017 and the proposed budget for 2018 were presented, discussed, and approved. Income for 2017 was higher than expected because of the addition of Cupcake Wars in the fall, the Vintage Book Sale in December, and the donations in memory of Bill Eichenberg. The actual expenditure for equipment/furniture in 2017 was \$0 because of KCLS restrictions however, some purchases have already been made this year. The proposed budget is a "best guess," conservative estimate. We are putting in the the WACOM and United Way grants for 2018.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nani reported

- The January monthly financial report was provided and discussed. She thanked Sandy and Jerry Bradley for developing the financial reporting system that she is using.
- She requested an audit due to changes in treasurers. Sandy suggested people she could contact to participate in the audit.

**Vice-President, Membership Report:** Carol Pearson reported

- Since our last meeting there have been 15 renewals.

- She reported that an email she sent to members on Monday resulted in a lot of error messages. She will look into the problem

**Vice-President, Book Sales Report:** Sandy reported, Janice was out of town

- Someone had suggested to Janice that a summer sale should be added this year to help reduce the backlog of books stored in the annex. Sandy suggested reducing prices during the last hour of spring sale to a-buck-a-bag could accomplish a good clean out. Vicki preferred the idea of a summer sale where the price all day would be a-buck-a-bag. Both suggestions will be passed along to Janice and it decision will be up to her.

**Newsletter:** Deadline for next newsletter - April 28, 2018.

**Old Business:**

- Sandy reported that the Pavlov book discussed at the last meeting was authenticated by an expert at a book fair in Los Angeles. He had a paper signed by Pavlov in his display case so was able to authenticate the signature on the spot and for free. Sandy received an offer of \$1000.00. After consulting with John Anderson and Sue Parker, Sandy accepted the offer.
- Remember to mark your calendars that the November meeting will be on the 14th.
- Loralynn Chrostowski is now handling the special books.

**New Business:**

- Mary Atkinson spoke about the cancellation of the county's rental book program. She really misses it because she likes to get the new books without waiting on a long holds list. She felt there would be many other retired people who felt the same way. Sandy asked for input from Andie Apple (KCLS Library Director) and Charissa before the meeting but has not had any yet. Charissa explained that the program was not self-sustaining. In Ridgecrest, it raised only \$532.40 during fiscal year 2016/17. Processing time at the county level would be the same whether one branch or several branches participate. She also noted that patrons can recommend new books and be the first on the holds list. Discussion continued on the potential for the FRBL to start a rental program in the branch salesroom, not as a fundraiser, but as a public service. Mary was pleased that we were willing to study the issue so thoroughly. The majority of board members were in favor of funding and volunteering to operate a rental program. A proposal was made to (1.) fund a contract for books and processing at \$4000.00, (2.) charge \$3.00 in advance for a one week loan period, and (3.) run the program in the salesroom keeping rental fees separate from other funds. The proposal was seconded and passed 5 to 1 with Vicki casting the dissenting vote.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 a.m. Members were encouraged to eat lunch at Pizza Factory or Beansters to support the fundraiser.

The next Board meeting will be **Wednesday, March 21st** at 10:00 a.m. at the Ridgecrest Library Community Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Lupei, Secretary