



Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library
Board Meeting Minutes, November 16, 2022

Board members present: Jerry Bradley, Sandy Bradley, Dave Burdick, Carol Pearson, Peggy Johnson, Barbara Bane, and Barbara Lupei. **Library Administrator:** Charissa Wagner. **Guests:** Nani Banks, Jil Richards, David Norcross, and Sarah Wersan.

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. The agenda was approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Nani provided copies of the October 2022 Financial Report. She went through the report to discuss income and expenses for the month and for the year to date.

President's Report:

No news to report

Librarian's Report: Charissa reported

- The branch received 25 more boxes of NARCAN, provided by Kern Behavioral Health & Recovery Services (KernBHRS). They currently have 20 on hand to distribute.
- Kern County Libraries have received 12 scholarships from California State Library to help adults attend Career Online High School. Happily, there have been applicants from the Ridgecrest area.
- The new expanded hours have started in the Ridgecrest Branch. Some regular patrons miss the Monday hours, but there were many requests for later evening hours and Friday and Saturday hours, so those are expected to be very popular. New hours are: 11-7 Tues-Thursday, 11-6 Friday, 11-4 Saturday. Closure days include: November 24-26 for Thanksgiving and December 2 for an All Hands In-Service Day in Bakersfield. The Winter Break will run from December 23 through January 2.
- The Thank A Veteran project was able to distribute locally this year rather than sending cards and other offerings to Bakersfield. Charissa distributed more than 400 submissions at local veteran events.
- The branch has gained one extra-help Departmental Aide to help with expanded hours, but has not been able to fill the Technician position yet. Applicants for the Technician position must take the test for Office Services Technician and qualify for an interview. They were not able to hire from the first list of candidates and are waiting for a new list to interview.

Vice-President, Membership Report: Carol reported

- There have been 6 renewals.

Old Business:

- **Web Page and Facebook Status:** Jerry requested that Barbara send all meeting minutes since 2019 to Becky Parker for posting on the web page. Most meetings during the pandemic were held via zoom and are larger video files. After discussion, we decided to send the pdf files at this time and not the video files. Jerry reminded us that we can let him know if we want things posted on Facebook.
- **Book Disposition:** Jil reported that the library delivery truck has picked up 120 boxes of books in their first 2 trips already. They will pick up more after the holidays. Donna's friend was able to load 18 boxes into her minivan to take to the book festival. Jil estimates the current inventory is about half what it was before the sale. Possibly as many as 30 boxes suffered some water damage in the last storm. They want to sort through the boxes and

only toss the damaged books. Jerry instructed the use of masks when moving or sorting those boxes.

- Jerry pointed out that the SSUSD has been very good to us. Rehanging the glass doors and providing a working lock so we would have an alternate entrance/exit allowed us to take more time to reduce our inventory and find an appropriate place to move.
- Sandy suggested letting teachers and homeschoolers comb through the current inventory and take what they want for free. However, Jerry stated that our policy must be that only the board and our volunteers may be allowed in the current storage area. Barbara Bane suggested holding smaller sales of 2 or 3 tables and making the same offer Sandy suggested. Jil and Dave said maybe after the New Year. Even a small sale is a lot of work.
- New Book Storage Status: The owner of The Oz House, Judith Ward, located near the intersection of Church and Downs, would like it to be a community resource. She would let us use the downstairs, the garage and attached space, and the bunkhouse for the cost of utilities and insurance. Jerry stated this would total about 2,000 square feet. Drawbacks include that the first floor is not at ground level, the rooms inside are small, and many have a step down from the main room. The paths outside are made of broken rock and are serious tripping hazards. The inside would not be suitable for a sales room but sales could be held in the parking lot.
- Jerry will try to attend the Airport Board meeting on Friday to discuss the idea of storing our inventory in the terminal. We would have to move everything for each sale, which would be impractical at best.
- Dave Burdick will continue pursuing an appointment with Phillip Peters to discuss his proposal for the old K-mart building. His proposal is to aim only at the old K-Mart building and to propose to the county some action that would allow various public support agencies to move in cost-free (no rent, utilities, etc) to provide one-stop shopping for people needing services. He and Jerry will approach our district supervisor at an appropriate time to test his reactions, and they will then write a proposal to the county before the drop-dead date.

New Business:

- Election of New Board Members:
President: Jerry Bradley
VP Book Sales: Jil Richards
Treasurer: Nani Banks
Members at Large: Peggy Johnson, Barbara Bane, Julie Gervaise
VP Membership: Carol Pearson
Secretary: Barbara Lupei

Jerry read a bio for Julie Gervaise and passed around a bio for Barbara Bane that some attendees had not seen prior to this meeting. Sandy moved that we approve the slate above as the board of directors for 2023. Dave Burdick seconded the motion. All present voted unanimously to pass the measure.

- To Consider for Next Meeting: Jerry asked that we consider ideas for future fund raising options. If our books are stored in a spot not conducive to sales, we could raise funds through alternate methods. Also, should we offer a financial incentive to the person(s) who sell our collectable books on Amazon? It is a lot of work and we don't have any volunteers selling right now even though we have a lot of books that have been researched for pricing.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:30am. The next Board meeting will be **Wednesday, January 18th** at 10:00am in the Library meeting room.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara Lupei, Secretary