



**Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library**  
Board Meeting Minutes, August 26, 2022

**Board members present:** Jerry Bradley, Barbara Lupei, Carol Pearson, Peggy Johnson, Dave Burdick and Sandy Bradley **Library Administrator:** not invited **Guests:** none

The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm in the Library meeting room.

**President:**

- Jerry reviewed the agenda and it was approved with two additions, 1. Updates on Facebook page access and webmaster, and 2. Letter Brent sent to Jil Richards.

**Facebook/Webmaster**

- Sandy and Jerry can now post on the FRBL Facebook page.
- They can not yet remove Brent as an admin, but should be able to do so within a week.
- Brent took down his inappropriate posts.
- Becky Parker, a librarian at Cerro Coso Community College, is willing to be our volunteer webmaster. Brent is willing to have Becky contact him to transfer control to her.

**Letter Brent Sent to Jil Richards**

- Jerry received a photo of a letter signed by Brent stating that the “officers agreed” with his decision to ban her from volunteering for the FRBL. Brent cited “bullying and aggressive” behavior. Kathy Donahue was contacted and said she was unaware of any problems from Jil, other than asking or telling other folks to move boxes when she was finished sorting.
- Jerry contacted Jil and told her he would contact her again within two weeks to discuss potential volunteer roles for her once the board decides how to proceed with book sales.

**Brent’s Check Writing:**

- The \$7500 check Brent wrote to Joann Foster was drawn on the FRBL Edward Jones account. The board was unaware this account did not have the requirement for two signatures in order to withdraw. Brent found this out and ordered checks and a credit card. Brent created these work-arounds fully aware that he did not have permission from the board to spend those funds. Most of the checks are in the hands of the board. The missing checks have been flagged as non-negotiable. There will be a \$40 charge to the account for that service.
- Currently, only Carol’s name is on the Edward Jones account.

\*\*Action Item: Jerry and Carol will take care of adding Jerry’s name to the account and making sure there is two signature integrity on the account. Confirm there is NOT a credit card on that account.

- Brent provided Carol with a one-page financial report for May 31 through July 31, 2022. It only shows total income and expenditures with no details or receipts. We will have to look closer at things like the labor expense of \$1411.50. It may require requesting copies of cancelled checks. Income deposited does not show what parts were for book sales, memberships, or donations.

\*\*Action Item: Barbara will prepare another letter for Albert VanLuven at AltaOne FCU removing Nani Banks from the main account and Charrisa Wagner from the Grant/Librarian account. Barbara will submit this letter to Carol for review and then email to Mr. VanLuven.

**The Balsam Site:**

- Brent wrote the check to Joann Foster on August 18th. Carol left a message on the phone number posted for the rental of the Balsam site on August 21st. informing the Fosters that Brent did not have approval from the board to sign a lease for the FRBL. The Fosters accepted his signature and a check on our account anyway without returning any calls from board members. They cashed the check on August 22nd.
- Jerry has finally been able to speak with Bob Foster and asked to have a copy of the lease. Bob refused unless board members would meet him at the site on Wednesday for a tour. Jerry plans to meet Bob there when he appoints a time. Sandy will also tour the space. Jerry intends to ask for the deposit back at that time. If that doesn't work, the next step would be to go to civil court with a lawyer.
- Dave Burdick arranged to view a space in the same mall as our current facility with Dave Ostash on Tuesday. Jerry will be there for the tour as well. If this space were suitable it would likely be free and might even include utilities. Questions to ask Dave O. Include: 1. Is there asbestos in the potential new space? 2. Is there asbestos in our current space?

**Moving Suggestions:**

- Jerry suggested asking Red Rock Books about a bulk buy of the cream of the crop of our books at a very low price.
- Sandy suggested an outdoor sale in September to clear out inventory at \$5 per bag for members and \$10 per bag for non-members. All the books would be included in the sale.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 4:37pm. The next scheduled meeting is September 24th at 10am, though another meeting is likely to be added after the tours with Dave Ostash and Bob Foster.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Lupei, Secretary