



Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library
Board Meeting Minutes, February 19, 2020

Board members present: Brent Clark Palmer, Patricia Walters, Nani Banks, Carol Pearson, Peggy Johnson, and Barbara Lupei. **Library Administrator:** Charissa Wagner. **Guests:** Kathy Killinger, sales room team.

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. The agenda was amended and approved. The minutes of the January 15, 2020 meeting were approved.

We were all saddened by the news that the Porterville Public Library (also a member of SJVLS) had suffered a serious fire the day before. Two firefighters tragically lost their lives fighting the blaze. We observed a moment of silence, sending prayers of healing and visions of the library re-opening. Brent suggested that we write to their Friends group to purchase a lifetime membership and offer to help in any way we can. A motion was made to approve spending \$50 on the lifetime membership in the Friends of the Porterville Library. The motion was seconded and passed. Barbara will write the letter.

Librarian's Report: Charissa reported

- Census - Postcards go out in March. A public computer will be moved and screened to provide some privacy. It is important that babies and pre-school aged children get counted because they will impact the school system within the next 10 years. This census will determine the amount of money those systems need.
- Summer Reading Challenge -
 - She needs more volunteers for roaming readers during the lunch period (11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.) Tuesday through Friday, indoors or outdoors.
 - She would like to add a few dates of "How To Festivals" where people share how to do something (anything from origami crane to yoga poses to slime making to folding cloth napkins to dancing flamenco) with all supplies provided. These will be 30 to 45 minute sessions on Saturdays.
 - More prize donors are still needed.
- Outreach Assistance -
 - The Early Education Fair, presented by the MOMS Club of Ridgecrest to inform parents about pre-school options, will be held on February 29th from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. They have asked us to participate again. Charissa can only attend for the first hour or so. Brent volunteered to cover the remaining time. They will be handing out activity calendars and the books on preparing for kindergarten.
 - The library will have a table at the Community Yard Sale on March 7th from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the fairgrounds. Brent also volunteered to help man this table.
- The *Los Angeles Times* is no longer being delivered to Ridgecrest or Bakersfield. She is checking with W.T. Cox (the periodical service) to see if they can provide it by mail, even if just on Sundays. We may need to consider electronic access.
- The branch has been awarded a \$10K grant for furniture for the teen space. This will be stored in a temporary location until the permanent floor plan change is complete.
- Homebound delivery service - Still needs volunteers including a coordinator (someone has expressed interest); selectors, to choose materials based on submitted preferences; and delivery, based on how much time available for deliveries and possible geographic location, every 3 weeks.

- Simply Fun host - Looking for person(s) to host party in February. Host gets credit and non-profit gets credit toward purchasing games. These are high-quality educational games for all ages. A flyer was circulated.
- Makerspace update - Still waiting on update from General Services. They were issuing Job Order Contracts to get quotes (in the fall). Asked to wait until after January 10th. Shalyn asked for update yesterday but nothing yet. Flooring has been installed in makerspace, public computer area, and the community room.

President's Report: Brent reported

- Books to Shut-ins - Patricia has taken the lead on this project. Jo Lish and her friends, all cancer survivors, are willing to pull books and take them to High Desert Haven and maybe also the transitional unit at the hospital. Next needs are an application form, advertising, and an article in the newspapers. They will be using donated books. They would take a batch every other month. They could include Bella Sera too.
- He will approach the hospital about the digital sign, and about a donation towards the book walk. He will also ask where they get books for patients.

Vice President of Book Sales - Brian was not present, Brent reported

- Book donations can be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m. on Tuesdays. They can also be picked up. Craig and Sharon still want to participate.
- Checking with annex team to see if they want to participate in the Community Yard Sale.

Treasurer's Report: Nani reported

- An audit is scheduled for March 14th with help from Naomi Norris and Kathy Killinger.
- She provided copies of the financial report for January. She highlighted income and expenses from the report, which were \$3,529.19 and \$73.73 respectively.

Vice-President, Membership Report: Carol reported

- On January 15th she had a total of 20 renewals including two businesses. No new members. Postcards were sent out on January 22nd, resulting in an additional 16 renewals.

Old Business:

- Charissa is looking for another set of drawers containing t-shirts. Brent will look in the storage spaces. She reminded us we will have the ability to make our own t-shirts at cost soon, for future savings.
- The new book drop installation will be postponed because HQ announced they are going to replace sidewalks and concrete near the doors. This means all will fit and the book drop will not block the sign put up by the Mason's.

New Business:

- Loren Smith has volunteered to carve shelf inserts that are set into boxes for the library. He would make them in the library and maintain them.
- Brent proposed an ice cream social for volunteers who helped in the library after the earthquakes, to be held on the anniversary.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 a.m. Members were encouraged to eat lunch at Pizza Factory or Beanster's to support the fundraiser.

Due to the COVID-19 virus, the next Board meeting will be **Wednesday, September 16th** at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Lupei, Secretary