



**Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library**  
Board Meeting Minutes, April 17, 2019

**Board members present:** Brent Clark Palmer, Carol Pearson, Peggy Johnson, Patricia Walters, Janice Norcross, Nani Banks, and Barbara Lupei. **Library Administrator:** Charissa Wagner. **East Kern Regional Library Supervisor:** Shalyn Pineda. **Guests:** Christopher Livingston, Managing Editor of *The Daily Independent*.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. The agenda was approved. The minutes of the February 20, 2019 meeting were approved.

Ratification of a vote taken by email (on March 26th) to restructure the board was passed unanimously.

**Librarian's Report:** Charissa reported

- The Roaming Reptiles performance on April 11th had a great turnout. Eighty-five people attended.
- The Bite of Reality event hosted by Desert Valleys Credit Union had an attendance of about 50 teens. She had a table demonstrating how libraries can help save money.
- The library had a table at the annual Children's Fair, held on April 13th, to hand out events calendars.
- The Rural Libraries Tour is sponsoring a visit from poet Olga Garcia Echeverria on April 20th from 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. This workshop will include poetry exercises and making mini books.
- Most events for Summer Reading Challenge (SRC) are planned. Participants can sign-up and track their reading online using the Beanstack reading challenge software and mobile app this year, though paper logs will be available for those who prefer them. More roaming readers are needed between 11:45 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. on Tuesdays through Fridays in June and July. These volunteers will read to children who are having lunch in the library, both inside and outside. Please let her know if you can volunteer once or regularly.
- She announced that a total of 259 Zip Books have been ordered in Kern County, and Ridgecrest Branch is the highest user with 32 books ordered.
- She passed around spreadsheets showing books purchased for the branch using KCL funds totaling approximately \$5K. New books are being ordered for the branch, they are just not being charged to the book trust at this time.
- Shalyn reported progress on the makerspace. Ordering has been held up by two branches, Mojave and California City, who can not decide whether to host the space only in the library or jointly in the library and the high school. They have been given a deadline to decide by the end of this month. Then the equipment that has been chosen can be ordered. They will also work on safety and waivers during this time. She has been talking to General Services about how they can help us. A supervisor and two others came to the branch to walk through it with her. They are very open to helping with anything they can do, and will make it a priority. The book drop has been ordered and is on the way to Beale. The wrap is being custom designed because this book drop is larger than the others that were wrapped. Brent told her how much the Friends appreciate the county stepping up to help the branch reorganize and plan for the makerspace.

**President's Report:** Brent reported

- He introduced guest Christopher Livingston, Managing Editor of *The Daily Independent*, who said it is a misconception that young adults and children don't use the library. Reading is not a dying art. About the makerspace, he said, "If you make it, they will come!" He told us he sent a photographer to the April 13th big sale, so we should watch for the photos in a coming issue.
- Brent mentioned the book "Quiet: the Power of Introverts" by Susan Cain, and reminded us that many people come to the library because it is a place where they don't feel any pressure to talk to anyone.
- The WACOM luncheon will be on May 14th. They will be distributing their grants. He plans to attend. Peggy said she would attend as well. It is held on base at the Paradise Club.
- More donations are needed for the flea market. They should be priced and they will be marked down later in the day. All leftovers will be donated at the end of the day.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nani reported

- She provided copies of the March 2019 FRBL Financial Report. The salesroom brought in an average of \$162/week. This is low, but they are on track to meet their annual budget. A check for \$147.74 was received from Pizza Factory. The first day of the big sale made approximately \$2,400.00.

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

- 17 people renewed at the first day of the sale. Her computer is down so she will have a more complete report next month.

**Vice-President, Book Sales Report:** Janice reported

- There are 49 boxes of politics/history in the annex. They may sell these books for ten cents each during the fall sale.
- She will be short two volunteers from 11 to 1 on Saturday, but it may work out okay since this can be a quieter time for the sale.
- Brent mentioned that this was the first sale where the Square (credit card reader) was implemented, and there were no problems. He and Nani processed most of the transactions, but it is easy to learn and any of the cashiers will be able to handle it. They borrowed a tablet from the library and connected through the wi-fi on a cell phone. Payments go directly into an FRBL account. The Friends may need to buy their own tablet as there may not always be one available from the library. They may need to prove wi-fi access for the square as well.

**Newsletter: Deadline for next newsletter - April 26, 2019.**

Articles assigned include Janice - sale and donation rules, Peggy - booksale room volunteers needed, Dave Burdick - ballot initiative results, Barbara and Brent - photos.

**Old Business:**

- Two locking file cabinets have been received for the makerspace area. Perhaps they can be painted? Brent said he would check with a friend who has experience with that.
- Shalyn said they have permission for a mural on the wall where the shelves have been removed.

**New Business:**

- Brent announced that Charissa is no longer the Acting Supervisor of the Ridgecrest Branch... she is now officially the Supervisor. Cheers from all!
- The staff lounge is often cluttered with too many boxes of donations making it hard for volunteers to sort and place books on the shelves. Craig does pick up boxes just about every day the library is open. It seems that the problem is that people are bringing large donations to the library instead of the annex. Janice plans to write about this in the

newsletter again. It was suggested that when staff take calls about donations, they try to determine how much the people plan to donate and suggest they take large donations to the annex. Janice has a key to the annex and is willing to meet people there if they call her. There is also a key in the library so others can make plans to meet someone at the annex. Patricia mentioned that the projector cart is in the way and asked if there is another place for it. There are also plates on the table that were left behind with snacks that could be moved. Charissa said that the sorters like the projector cart there.

- The community/sale room was mentioned next. The curtain over the built-in cabinets was removed. The counter top looked neat, but Patricia volunteered to go through the cabinets and make sure any FRBL materials stored there are well organized.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m. Members were encouraged to eat lunch at Pizza Factory or Beanster's to support the fundraiser.

The next Board meeting will be **Wednesday, May 15th** at 10:00 a.m. at the Ridgecrest Library Community Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Lupei, Secretary