

Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library

Board Meeting Minutes, 18 March 2026

Board members present: Jerry Bradley, Carol Pearson, Nani Banks, Julie Gervais, RBL Supervisor Charissa Wagner, Deb Fields, John Freeman, Debi Pio

Call to Order:

- Meeting of the Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library (FRBL) Board was called to order at 1:03 pm
- Agenda approved
- February board meeting minutes approved

President's Report

- Welcome from Jerry

RCL Branch Supervisor's Report

- Library is open! Reopened on schedule February 24.
- Infrastructure Improvements
 - Doors, windows, alarm panel, fire alarm (audible and visual alarms), some lights: replaced or updated
 - Some improvements will continue after reopen date: some carpeting
- Other library improvements coming
 - New chairs (specific donation funds) and blinds
- Programs
 - Adult:
 - Ridgecrest Recommends reading challenge
 - Choose 10 of 30 books (a good variety recommended by community; read by the end of the year)
 - 40 participants
 - Life After Loss grief support
 - All types of grief, River Sage Revival
 - Bubbles Qigong (on most Thursdays)
 - 1/3 Thursday at 5:15 (begin May)
 - Youth
 - In N Out Challenge (4-12) sandwich (free hamburger, cheeseburger, or grilled cheese) coupon for every 5 books read (up to three coupons per)
 - Special Needs Teen and Caregiver Meetup (begin May)
 - All Ages

- One Book One Coast (Pacific Coast Libraries participating)
 - They Called Us Enemy, George Takei (graphic novel)
 - May 31 — in person author talk with George Takei at the East Los Angeles library with a live stream on YouTube
- Summer Lunch at the Library (provided by SSUSD)
 - Tue-Fri 11:30-12:30 June 2-July 10 all ages, no requirements
 - Community Engagement table will be available every day lunch is offered
 - Princesses/visitors to read and visit with families every Friday
 - No lunch 6/19 and 7/3
- Plant a Seed-Read Summer reading challenge
 - June 1-July 31
 - Community businesses and clubs provide donations for gift cards and prizes for completion

Membership VP Report

- 2 new members, 9 renewals

Treasurer's Report

- Nani distributed and discussed the February 2026 Monthly report and the YTD 2026 Financial report

Store Manager's Report

- Julie distributed and discussed Books & More handout with sales earnings July 2025-Mar 14 2026
 - o Earnings and trends for sales only (doesn't include donations or memberships done at the store)
 - o Bag Sale- Prepping for Event
 - Requires a lot of elbow grease
 - Need to set a date, possibly April with good weather
 - o Collectibles
 - Sorting and some put aside for online sales
 - Maybe sell at the Bag Sale, or Blind Date with a Collectible, set up a Collectibles Corner at store?
 - Not all can bring in a good price
 - o 100 boxes; some books will need to go to the dump which is in part a service to our community (within reason)

February Fundraiser Dinner 02/21

- Great Success! Good food!

- Reviewed financial results via 2026 FRBL Dinner Fundraiser handout
- Lessons learned-mostly minor things to improve for next year
 - Need take home box options, improved audio system, another table of 8, more variety in auction gifts, flatware
 - Sell tickets only via the store and Zeffy
- Next event-Next year? Consider twice a year?
 - Dependent on volunteer schedules

Online Book Sales

- Jerry and Vicky have 7 books on ABE books site for sale; 2 weeks posted no hits
- Need to list more, it takes time
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Members Only Sale

- Members Only Sale: Brought in \$252

New Business

- Movie Fundraiser-call back in April
- Books and More store status
 - Reviewed handout provided by Jerry, reminded of FRBL purpose, benefits of store, issues, and considerations-much discussion
- Storage shed
 - Shed behind store OK for temporary but with previous break in issues etc, not an option for collectibles it's just not as secure; use as is
 - Evidence of rodents, requires a good cleaning
 - Not sure if space fits requirements, will continue with repair and clean (Jerry and John will replace door hinges, Debi offered to clean)

2026 Fundraiser Options

- Charissa suggested a raffle if it qualifies under the raffle license (requires 100 participants, investigate for next operational year-see email and move to next month)

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon Potluck

- April 21; Invite only
- Home cooked items are OK
- Board members will provide 1-2 items each
- Deb, Julie, and Debi will organize

Adjournment and Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be 1:00 pm Wednesday April 15.