



Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library
Board Meeting Minutes, May 17, 2023

Board members present: Carol Pearson, Peggy Johnson, Jil Richards, Nani Banks, Barbara Bane, Julie Gervais, and Barbara Lupei. **Library Administrator:** Charissa Wagner

Carol called the meeting to order at 1:02pm.
The agenda was approved.
The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

President's Report: Jerry asked Carol to relay his thanks to all who worked at the book sale on May 6th.

Librarian's Report: Charissa reported

- In-N-Out Cover to Cover Club reading challenge completed with 171 finishers earning 365 gift cards. This shows excellent growth over last year's 62 finishers.
- The Money Matters series continued in May with classes on Personal Finance Basics, Investing Strategies, and Credit & Debt Management.
- The Lunch at the Library teen hire has been made.
- Park passes for free parking are still available.
- The Afternoon Movies series continues, in partnership with the Cross Cultural Exchange Club featuring intergenerational movies (The Bucket List, Red, Quartet, Finding Neverland).
- Summer Reading Planning continues. Jil volunteered to talk to Tractor Supply about donating money or prize items.
- The Ridgecrest Branch is now 4th in circulation among the Kern County branches because Tehachapi Branch got an extra day of open hours.
- NARCAN is still available free for personal use. The library has stock available.
- Access to Technology for older adults and disabled adults on June 10th, by appointment or walk-in between 10am and 2 pm. A partnership between the Kern County Library and the Kern County Department of Aging & Adult Services.

"The Kern County Library and Kern County Aging and Adult Services are collaborating on the Access to Technology Program to provide education, training, and assistance on the use of technology to older adults (60 years and up) and adults with disabilities. We have staff dedicated to providing this service to qualifying community members at all 22 Kern County Library branches. Our goal is to connect older adults & adults with disabilities to technology and help reduce isolation, increase connections & enhance self-confidence."

Vice-President, Membership Report: Carol reported

- 4 new members and 14 renewals.

Treasurer's Report: Nani reported

- Nani distributed the April Monthly Financial Report, and the Financial Status as of April 30, 2023. She walked us through both reports.

Vice-President, Book Sales Report: Jil reported

- Income from the May one-day sale totaled \$1,210.40, despite the high winds in the afternoon. This sale, with priced books, made 2x as much for books as the bag sale.
- Volunteers from the Mormon Church, the Key Club, and VX-9 helped with set-up and clean-up. She will send "thank you" emails rather than listing names in the newsletter this time.
- Specials for home schoolers were discussed and discontinued.
- The sci-fi volumes sold at auction and the next auction is tomorrow.

Old Business:

- **Book Storage Status:** Carol received a message that Skip Gorman (city council member) had some understanding re our storage needs. Skip spoke to City Manager Ron Strand who told Skip that the city might be able to help us. Carol has been trying to set up a meeting with Strand since then but he has been out of the office.
- Jil found out that the building she heard about was the old wooden church at Norma and Ridgecrest Boulevard. That building wasn't deemed a viable option since it is very old and has been empty for a very long time.
- **Book Disposition Status:** Jil will be sorting on Wednesdays (except board meeting days) and flex Fridays from 1 to 3pm.
- The option for consignment of books is on hold for now.
- **Community Yard Sale** - Jil has reserved two booth spaces in Sage Hall right next to Charissa's booth near the entrance. The sale runs from 7am to 1pm. All cars must be out of the drop off area before 7am that day. Early drop off is available on May 30, and 31, and June 1 from 10am to 3pm, and on June 2 from 10am to 8:30pm. Nani will make sure we have cash for making change. Jil suggested perhaps fanny packs might be more convenient than a cash box. Jil will send more info about which gate to use for drop off by email.

New Business

- **Bulk Mailing** - was discussed again. One new option was to send by email and post it on the website though members without a listed email would not know when it was posted unless they are on Facebook to see an announcement. Another option suggested was to charge a higher fee for members who wish to have their newsletter mailed.
- The option of a Fall Book Sale was discussed but a date was not set. Hopefully we will have a new site by then.
- Jill brought up the concern that we need more board members or committees, particularly to handle publicity and volunteers for sales.
- Nani announced that the audit of 2021 and 2022 will be performed on May 26th by Naomi Norris and Julie Gervais.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:43 p.m. The next Board meeting will be **Wednesday, August 16th at 1:00pm** in the Library meeting room.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Lupei, Secretary