

Friends of the Library Minutes for December 1, 2021

Attending: Sandy Birkland, Angie Eakins, Doreen Heintz, MaryJo Hamling, Arlene Mari, Cathy Moser, Donna Philip, Claudia Tate, Alissa Wolenetz

President Arlene Mari welcomed all and distributed agendas and minutes from previous meeting. She called meeting to order at 1 pm. The minutes from the Nov. meeting were approved (motion by Cathy M., seconded by Angie E.)

Treasurer's Report: Balance of \$21,548.23. (portion of this is for 2022 summer reading program.)

Results of Nov. 5/6 Book Station sale: Had another successful sale. Library patrons look forward to the sales.

Nov. 5 (Friday) \$390.00

Nov. 6 (Saturday) \$228.00

\$618.00

Upcoming books sale: Friday 12/3 noon till 2:30 pm Angie Eakins and Ronna Anthony

2:30 pm till 5 pm Donna Philip and Sandy Birkland

Saturday (12/4) 9am till 12:30 pm: Tony and Louise Gies

Director's Report: Alissa reported the following:

Projects:

Virtual MT Humanities events: Women Writers Workshop – Thurs. Nov. 18th and Thurs. Dec. 2nd with Caroline Patterson from Missoula from 6 – 8 pm. She will be presenting virtually to those gathered in the upstairs meeting room.

Mark Gibbons, MT Poet Laureate will present virtually on Thurs. Dec. 9th from 6 – 8 pm.

For the Nov. 18th meeting, 17 people participated here.

School and Kids: Brittney brought home over \$1000 in equipment from the STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) Training she attended in Nov. at MT Learning Center at Canyon Ferry near Helena.

The library will be able to do robotics workshops with students. The library might ask for some volunteers from the Friends group to assist with these.

The Teen Writer workshops after school are going well.

The library has added class visits from Grass Range Schools. Also a WiFi hot spot was checked out to the Grass Range school.

Adult programming: Some of the senior outreach programs have been on hold due to COVID situation.

The pop-up Library at the Art Center went well during their Harvest Fest. Alissa brought materials and also signed up people for library cards. Library would like to do this again.

Discussion for the Friends:

- Welcome to Lewistown book discussion group- Staff would like to start this.
- Get-together for the Friends and the Staff and the Library Board. Possibly this will be in Jan.

Misty A. came up with this idea so that all could get to know each other.

- Dolly Parton Imagination Library

This program sends a new book to pre-school children ages 0 – 5 each month.

This program needs to have a sponsoring nonprofit. Alissa wondered if the FOL would be willing to sponsor. There are 710 children under 5 years old in Fergus County. The cost is \$2.10 per child per month. The cost starts out low and increases each year. Cathy M. suggested FOL could commit for one year and then other sponsors possibly could be found after that. Alissa would like other partners too. Youth Librarian Brittney U. suggested this could be tied into the summer reading program. Group discussed this. No action taken. This could be a concern for FOL if committed to this and then there could be other needs of the library with which the FOL could be asked to assist.

Hiring of Part-time Employee: Sue Standley was recently hired as a part-time library staff member. She had retired from teaching elementary students in the Lewistown school district.

Library Building/Facility: Local Fire Dept. conducted this. No other updates.

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New Business:

Upcoming events:

Santa's Seconds Sale to be held Dec. 4th and Sun. Dec. 5th. This will be at the Barnes Street Theater at the corner of Barnes and 3rd Avenue. Arlene handed out the sheet with schedules, worker lists, etc.

FOL has received lots of donations from the public so this caused a need to have a second sale day.

Had time sessions when people could bring their donations.

Nov. 12 and 19th (Fridays) from 3 till 5 pm Donna Phillip and Angie E. and others helped

Nov. 13 and 20th (Saturdays) from 9am till 11am. Tony Gies and Sandy B.

The setup at the theater will be Friday Dec. 3rd starting at 9:30 am for setting up the tables.

Setup Workers: Dave Mari, Neil Philip, Noel Birkland, Clint Loomis

10 am till noon: Mary F., MaryJo H. Bob and Claudia T.

Noon till finished: Angie E., Cathy M., Arlene M.

Some of the workers will price more valuable items and place those on a separate table from all other sale items. We will look up some of the items on line to assist in pricing. It was asked if we will set aside a few of the higher priced items to have available for Sunday sale.

Noon till finished: Angie E., Cathy M., Arlene M.

Sale Day Schedule of workers:

9am till 11:30 am. Bob and Claudia T., Jean C., also MaryJo and Arlene to help with influx of shoppers at the beginning of the sale.

11:30 am till 2 pm: Angie E., Alissa W., Arlene M.

Sunday:

Noon till 3 pm Donna P., Angie E., Arlene M. Cathy M.

Cleanup: Monday Dec. 6th – time to be determined. Items not sold will be taken to the Treasure Depot. A few collectible, more valuable items will be stored at the Book Station for next year.

There will be a table of homemade cookies to sell at the sale also. FOL has done this at the previous Santa Sales at the library and shoppers liked this. FOL members can volunteer to make cookies, place one dozen in a zip lock baggie on a paper plate. Would be nice to have the cookie plates labeled with the type so shoppers know. A discussion was held about the pricing. We will sell these for \$3.00 for a plate of cookies.

In preparation for the monthly book sale, MaryJo and Mary F. were on the Live at 10 O'clock program. Also, for advertising for the yearly Santa Sale, Mary Jo arranged for ads on the radio and Mary F. arranged for ads in the News Argus. The FOL group authorized treasurer Tony G. to pay for the ads at both businesses. KXLO cost was \$118.50. FOL bought 5 ads and then because we are a nonprofit, the radio station matches those ads with 5 more for no charge played at high listening times on the week before the sale. Mary F. also printed up paper fliers for the Santa sale and these were distributed all around town. Also, Hidden Montana and other online sources listed the Santa sale to advertise it.

Appreciation for Library Staff (done annually)

Gift Cards for the library staff from the FOL group: FOL has done this in the past. It was decided to purchase five gift cards (one for each staff member) in the amount of \$25 each to 618 Coffee, so a total expenditure of \$125. Motion was made by Donna P. and seconded by Sandy B. Motion carried.

The group decided not to have a December meeting since the usual meeting date of the last Wed. of the month falls during the holidays. Instead, next FOL meeting will be Wed. January 26th at 1pm in upstairs meeting room.

The next Book Station Sale will be on Friday Feb. 4th and Saturday Feb. 5th.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:10 pm.