

Minutes for Lewistown Public Library Friends of the Library Meeting Wed. Jan. 25, 2023

Attending: Sandy Birkland, Angie Eakins, Tony Gies, MaryJo Hamling, Jim Hanson, Arlene Mari, and Brittney Uecker & Alissa Wolenetz

Minutes and Agendas were distributed. Pres. Arlene Mari called the meeting to order at 1pm.

Minutes from the Nov. 29, 2022 meeting were approved (motion by Angie E., 2nd by Tony G.)

Treasurer's Report: Tony reported the taxes for FOL are completed. From Central MT Foundation, FOL had \$56 in interest for 2022. The FOL balance is \$41,985.

Tony deposited \$425 in new FOL membership money for 2023.

Director's Report – given by Brittney:

Chili Bowl: Was a great success. Brittney expressed thanks to all the FOL members who helped. The library is very grateful. The gross income was \$3,285. Attendees have told the librarians they enjoyed the event and were glad it was back.

Dolly Parton Imagination Library: There are approximately 140 young children enrolled.

HB 234 in the legislature: The proposed bill is troubling. It proposes changes to Montana's obscenity laws and those proposed changes would criminalize library and museum, and school personnel, who could be sued for materials in their collections. A discussion was held concerning this matter, and FOL members were encouraged to continue to voice their opposition to this bill to their representatives in the legislature.

Regarding the legislature, Alissa explained that there is some good news regarding HB91 for funding for libraries in the state. The bill proposing funding at a level of 50 cents/capita has passed committee.

Old/continuing Business:

Results of December sales:

Dec. 2 & 3 book sale:	\$ 717.15
Santa's Seconds Sale Dec. 3 rd :	<u>\$3,080.00</u>
Total for weekend:	<u>\$3,797.15</u>

Part of the great success for Santa sale was the fact there were several very nice quilted items in the silent auction part of the sale and other very nice quality ornaments were donated.. This was a great effort with lots of volunteers.

Upcoming Feb. book sale:

Volunteers needed:

Friday (02/3)	Noon – 2:30 pm	
	2:30 pm – 5:00 pm	<u>Angie E., and Sandy B</u>
Saturday 02/4)	9am till 12:30 pm	Tony and Louise Gies

Advertising will be done and MaryJo will contact the radio for the KXLO Live Program.

January is Membership Renewal Time: Last week FOL volunteers gathered to put the letters together to present members and they were sent out. If you have any suggestions for new people to reach out to, please let us know.

Minutes for Friends of the Library Meeting on Jan. 25, 2023 Page 2

Chili Bowl Status: FOL will pay for Harry's (Kim Ferrell) to cater the food as well as gift tote bags for the winners. Everyone seemed to have a good time. Remaining items : Shanna Larson's compensation, TORCH (Together Our Recovery Center Heals) workers who gathered up the team score sheets and LDS volunteers who unloaded and set up the tables/chairs and helped cover the tables with paper.

The bid from Kim Ferrell was approx. \$1,400. Tony G. will take care of paying her. She shared with the FOL servers that the hard part of catering is the unloading and loading of the heavy food items and roasters, etc. For next year, FOL should have some strong workers that can help with that task. Approximately 170 people were served. In 2020 the number was 224. It was noted that the price we charge attendees went up to \$20. Also, this year, the chili bowl offered financial assistance to anyone who wanted to participate but needed financial help. Note for next year: One of the roasters of chili had been accidentally turned off, so the chili from that roaster was cold.

FOL appreciates everyone who volunteered to help --to the servers, the committee and all.

The FOL Dolly Parton Imagination Library fund has \$5,915.55 as of the end of December.

The Central MT Literacy Council (formerly know as Reading Council) assembles “literacy bags” for newborns and their families at CMMC. They wondered if FOL would want to put a flier in each bag explaining the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. Arlene will check into this.

Their council also wants to know if FOL would want to partner with them in maintaining the Little Libraries around town. They need help with these. Some of the FOL members have been taking books to stock the one at the Yogo Inn. MaryJo also said there is one at the Civic Center in the lobby.

Book Station is very full of books for the next sale and there are many duplicate copies. MaryJo will contact the Moore Public Library and see if they would want to come and choose some of the duplicates for their library.

Motion carried to adjourn the meeting at 1:58pm . (motion by Sandy B., 2nd Tony G.)

Next FOL meeting is Wed. Feb. 22nd.

Respectfully submitted.

MaryJo Hamling, Secretary