

Minutes for Friends of the Library Meeting January 31, 2024

Note: there was no FOL meeting the last Wed. of Dec. due to the holidays.

Attending: Angie Eakins, Lisa Ferguson, Tony Gies, MaryJo Hamling, Mary Mendel, Cathy Moser, Arlene Mari, Andrea Payne, Donna Philip, Alissa Wolenetz

Arlene called the meeting to order at 1pm. Agendas were distributed along with Library Director Reports.

Treasurer's Report: Tony G. stated that as of 12/31 there is a balance of \$50,225.41

The accountants have gone over the FOL books for this past year. And we have a listing of income, etc.

FOL officers have copies of this.

NOTE: FOL has committed to putting \$12,500 toward the matching for the CDBG Grant if the library receives this from the Dept. of Commerce for a professional assessment of the library building – for long term planning for maintenance and repair.

Library Director's Report: See page 2

Results of Dec. book sale: \$ 967.00

Results of Santa's Seconds Sale \$2,754.00

Total for December: \$3,721.00

Results of Jan. 5 2024 book sale: \$ 673.00

Results of Jan. 6 2024 book sale: \$ 234.00

Total for Jan. book sale: \$. 917.00

Angie explained that many of the shoppers asked for bags in which to take their books so several at the meeting will bring plastic grocery bags to the Book Station. Also, there are nice canvas Public Library reusable tote bags available for \$20.

Upcoming Feb. book sale:

Friday 2/02: Noon – 2:30 pm

2:30pm – 5 pm

Saturday 2/03 9am – 12:30 PM

Volunteers:

Cathy Moser

Angie Eakins and Andrea Payne

Tony and Louise Gies

Sorting will be happening Thursday morning 10 – noon. Please save some cardboard boxes for the sale.

Chili Bowl Recap: People enjoyed the event. Thanks to the committee for all the work.

Membership Mailing: We will need a roll of stamps and volunteers to stuff the letter Pres. Arlene writes. The membership runs Jan – Dec. each year (calendar year).

Dolly Parton Imagination Library total balance is \$7,632.37 as of end of Dec (12/31/23)

Available is \$4,323.64 and endowment is \$3,308.73

Annual Report Filing – with the MT Sec. Of State's office due April 15. No charge.

Author's Dinner in April – work has begun on this event.

Dani Buehler is new to the Library Board as the City Commission representative. Gayle Doney, who retired from the City Commission, was the previous city representative on the Library Board.

Thank you was received from the library staff for the 618 Coffee Gift Cards for Christmas. FOL paid \$25 each for these.

Next FOL meeting is February 27th. Meeting was adjourned at 1:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted, MaryJo Hamling Secretary

Alissa gave the following report:

Director's Report – Friends of the Library Meeting Jan. 31, 2024

Imagination Library

- 2,840 books have been mailed to local area children since Sept. 2022. Sue Standley takes wonderful care of all the details for this program.

- A cutout of Dolly Parton will be auctioned off at the Author Dinner as a DPIL fundraiser.

- Our credit balance with DPIL is about \$1,500. With matching funding from TSF, that amounts to \$3,000, which will keep us in stock for another five months before we need to transfer additional funds from our endowment to DPIL.

Since the library has balances in account for library programming, library director would like Chili Bowl proceeds go to Central Montana Foundation Dolly Parton account.

Programming:

Regular programs continue:

1st Tuesday – Misty's Mystery Club 2nd Tuesday – Science Fiction & Fantasy Club

3rd Tuesday – Curious Cinema Club 4th Tuesday – A to Z Club

Staff has started to plan for Summer Reading Program and will keep FOL updated as we book speakers. Also, library plans a movie screening with Summer Reading Program.

Chili Bowl:

Thank you to FOL for funding Chili Bowl! The Committee is wrapping up a few payments, then will have the finances completed. We grossed \$4,240 on the event, which is our highest total yet. The Lewistown Soccer Club sold all their items at their auction and were also a great help with the event. Many of the FOL members donated beef, helped serve chili and helped coordinate the event. TORCH members also worked at the event. It is a good community event. Working with other groups such as the Soccer Club makes sense in a smaller town such as Lewistown.

Author Dinner:

This will be held this Spring at Jack's Hanger. I'd like to set a maximum budget of \$7,000 for this event. This will be in late April on in May. Have contacted some possible authors and still working on this (Russell Rowland, Chris LaTray, since he is MT Poet Laureate currently.

In the past, the FOL funded the author's costs – \$1,000. The FOL can easily handle the expenditure of the dinner through FOL account. Catering will probably be with 618 Coffee Shop and charge \$50 per ticket, with a cocktail hour/bar.

Plan is not to have a silent auction. Renee Rummans, from her jazz night in Jan. at the Hanger, shared valuable suggestions.

Building Update:

We have not received notification about our CDBG application. Fingers crossed. The state agency is short-staffed, thus the delay.