

# Friends of the Lewistown Public Library (FOL) Meeting Minutes for March 1, 2023

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

Meeting was called to order by Pres. Arlene Mari at 1 pm..The regular meeting last Wed. was moved to March 1<sup>st</sup> due to bad weather. Minutes and agendas were distributed.

Minutes of the Jan. 25, 2023 meeting and the special meeting of the board on Feb. 6, 2023 were approved. ( motion by Cathy M., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Angie E.)

**Treasurer's Report:** Tony G. reported the balance is \$43,379.48. FOL Membership dues in the amount of \$2,755 has been collected. (Note: last year the total membership dues income was \$3,710.)

**Director's Report:** Alissa reported:

**Projects:** 177 children are currently enrolled in Dolly Parton Imagination Lib. Program and 7 have graduated (reached their 5<sup>th</sup> birthdays). The most recent Census indicated that Fergus County has approx. 710 children as residents in the ages 0 – 5. Dolly Parton program estimates that about 65% of children in counties with the program will sign up for the program.

Mt First Lady Susan Gianforte is working out details for sponsorship on a statewide basis.

The intent is for the Treasure State Foundation to sponsor 50% of existing programs and 100% of new programs. Golden Valley County (Lavina and Ryegate) does not have a library, so Mrs. Gianforte has asked us to take on registration duties for the 50 or so eligible children. She will get us the new Memorandum of Understanding ASAP pending work on DPIL's end.

Alissa asked that Fol consider authorizing someone from the group to sign a modified agreement with sponsorship for Fergus County and a new agreement with 100% sponsorship for Golden Valley County.

**Author Dinner:** Alissa requested a budget of \$2,000 (or whatever FOL group feels is reasonable) for this year's Author Event and for a rep. From the FOL to be designated to help with the event.

**Building Update:** Cathy and I are working on a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a Preliminary Architectural Review (PAR) to evaluate the building, develop maintenance schedules, and assess the feasibility of cosmetic renovations to match the look of the expansions with the original building. We are meeting with Snowy Mountain Development today to discuss possible grant funding. We may reach out in coming months for letters of support for grants.

## **Funding Wish List:**

Matching Funds for a (PAR) ( ~\$10,000)

Wireless printer or additional software for current printer (Pending)

Author Event planning funds (ceiling of \$2,000)

New hot water dispenser for use in upstairs meeting room (~\$75, Ace Hardware) This will be used for meetings and book groups, etc.

**MLA – state funding:** Will receive \$400,000/year in Mt state budget to keep the hot spot program. The legislature approved this.

A question came up about Dolly Parton program. If the Treasure State Foundation provides funding, will that group have a say in what books are chosen. Alissa said the Dolly Parton Foundation decides what books are chosen and these are based on pre-K skills, such as learning colors, numbers, etc.

Alissa stated that Susan Gianforte would like to visit each affiliate of the Imagination Library soon.

**Author Dinner Discussion** was held. The author dinner has been a popular program with the community and the outlying area. If this was held in May, we could use a MT Humanities speaker. Carolyn Patterson from Missoula is a possible author who could present. After discussion, the group felt that for this year it would be better to forego a formal Author Dinner. Planning for next year can be done well in advance.

It was decided to buy a hot water dispenser (for tea or hot chocolate) (Donna moved, Tony G. seconded.) Motion carried.

**Results of Book Sale For Feb.**

Friday Feb. 3 <sup>rd</sup> sale:	\$ 669.00
Saturday Feb.4 <sup>th</sup> sale:	<u>\$ 301.00</u>
	\$ 970.00

**Upcoming March Book Sale:**

Friday 3/03:	Noon – 2:30 pm: Cathy? Diane?
	2:30 – 5 pm: Andrea Payne & Angie Eakins
Saturday 3/04:	9am – 12:30 pm: Tony And Louise Gies

**Discussion was held about Book Station Book Sales.** When someone shops at the sale and buys boxes and boxes of books this poses a problem. The concern is it takes up so much space and the boxes are in the way of other shoppers and could be a tripping hazard. At the most recent sale there was a very large purchase of many boxes of books.

FOL is currently storing Montana & Western History books (collectibles) till a summer sale where those will be featured. It was suggested to have that be a one-day sale on a Saturday and to advertise it ahead of time as a special event.

**Membership Drive:** Thank yous will be sent to any members who gave \$100 or more for membership for 2023.

Regarding the Dolly Parton account with the Central Mt Foundation, there is \$6,022.11 currently in the account. A \$100 donation was received from Janet Llewellen.

Arlene filed the annual report for FOL with the Mt Sec. Of State's office.

Next book sale is March 31 (Friday) from noon till 5pm and Sat. April 1<sup>st</sup> 9am – 12:30 pm  
Workers are needed.

On Sat. April 1<sup>st</sup> there is an annual Family Expo at the Trade Center at the Fairgrounds. The library will have a table. Approximately 25 groups (nonprofits and medical and other organizations will be there.) There is also an Easter Egg Hunt for children in conjunction with this.

The library will have registration info for families for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:05 pm. Next Meeting : Wed. March 29<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm.