

Minutes for Lewistown Public Library Friends of the Library Meeting June 28, 2023

Attending:

Sandy Birkland, Angie Eakins, Shelly Halvorson (from Roundup), MaryJo Hamling, Arlene Mari, Andrea Payne, Donna Philip, Glynn Wolar, Alissa Wolenetz

Meeting called to order at 1pm by President Arlene Mari. Agendas, minutes and Director's report were distributed. Minutes from May 31 FOL meeting were approved (Motion by Andrea P., 2nd by Angie E.)

Treasurer's Report: Balance is just over \$46,000.

Director's Report:

Projects: Imagination Library (monthly books mailed to children ages 0 – till their 5th birthday) from the Dolly Patton Foundation. There are 224 participants and 17 graduates in Fergus County. The Central MT Jaycees plan to donate tips from the Central MT Fair Beer Gardens again to the program. The program is now statewide, with funding from the First Spouse of MT Foundation. They pay half of the Fergus County costs and FOL pays the other half. So far there are no children from Petroleum County enrolled. Please reach out to anyone in that county and let them know about this program. Shelly Halvorson, Program Coordinator from the South Central MT RSVP volunteered to share information in Petroleum County.

Programming:

Sip and Paint Night was well received and well attended (19 people). Library staff would like to make this part of a series of events pairing hard topics with creative projects and community discussion.

Summer Reading Program has over 250 people registered. The movie School of Rock had 13 attendees.

Library is sponsoring a free pool and slides day on Sat. July 15th to cap off Summer Reading Program.

Building/Facility Update: Library plans to apply for a Community Development Block Grant in the November cycle.

The adult session for Tea Sampling is full and next week there will be the UFO session.

Other updates:

Many thanks to all who came out to the Library's presentation to the County Commissioners on May 31st.

Alissa hopes to have some 6 week sessions for adult-ed. In the Fall – possibly Fire/ecology or Language or Guitar lessons. She would like to see ball room dancing,

Upcoming Committees: Chili Bowl – will begin planning in July/August

Author Dinner – Begins in October/November

Alissa thanked all the FOL members who brought cookies for the table the first day of Summer Reading program. The patrons enjoyed them.

Old and Continuing Business:

Book Station Book Sales:

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| Results of June 2 and 3 book sale: | \$606.00 |
| Results of Friday June 16 (mid-month) book sale | <u>232.00</u> |
| Total for June: | \$838.00 |

Upcoming July Book Sale:

Volunteers: Friday 6/30 noon till 2:30 pm: Andrea Payne & Sandy Birkland

2:30 pm till 5 pm: Angie Eakins and _____

Saturday 7/01: Tony And Louise Giles

This Sat. July 1 only from 9am till 12:30pm we will have a special sale of the Montana books as well as collectibles. These will be specially priced according to value and weather permitting, this portion of the sale will be held outdoors. Neil and Donna Philip will be overseeing this sale, along with help from Arlene Mari and Mary Jo Hamling.

Setup will be at 8 am. MaryJo will bring an additional folding table.

Mid-month Friday One-Day-Only Book Sale July 14th:

The group decided to hold this sale. Angie and Andrea will work the 2:30 -5pm portion.

Angie explained that when she worked the latest mid-month book sale, many of the shoppers said they did not know in advance about the sale. So FOL needs to advertise these sales more widely.

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Discussion was held about promoting the sales. MaryJo will be on KXLO radio tomorrow. FOL bought an ad for the Special Sat. July 1 sale from the News Argus.

Group voted to purchase a new banner, up to \$500 in cost, to be put up on the railing of the Library patio to advertise book sales. (motion by Donna P., 2nd by Andrea P.)

Following up from previous meeting regarding new chairs for upstairs reading room, Mary Jo ordered 5 upholstered chairs the group discussed (@\$500 per chair) from Tier Furniture. They will not be delivered until after Summer Reading Program is over. For the 5 old chairs, FOL will do a silent auction. People will be able to bid on the chairs as soon as the new ones arrive in Lewistown. Funds will go to the FOL since originally FOL donated the chairs (Alissa checked with the city to be sure that is OK.) Glynn suggested FOL should let people know that if they purchase a chair, they are responsible for hauling it out of the library.

Discussed how in the past, we used postcards to update FOL members on upcoming library and FOL events. Donna explained that Ballyhoo printed these.

Shelly Halvorson, Program Coordinator of South Central MT RSVP, updated the group on the changes. They lost a grant but did not lose the program. So they are reorganizing. She is in charge of the Lewistown sites (stations) and comes here on Wednesdays. There are approx. 300 volunteers. Officially the volunteers are age 55 and over. Also, there are some volunteers between the ages of 18 – 55. There will be the annual Recognition Dinner in September at the Council on Aging Building. Those 55 and over will continue to be covered by insurance when volunteering through RSVP.

Donation: Town & Country Grocery gave us \$421.58 from their tip jar at the coffee and ice cream counter as well as from the bags everyone brings themselves to carry their groceries home in. Their corporate office will donate a like amount – they like to support their community.

The Friends (FOL) Dolly Patton Imagination Library fund held at CMF (Central Montana Foundation) has a total balance of \$6,206.77.

We have curtains in place on the upper west side windows of the Book Station to help temper the sun from blinding the workers on sale days. Special thanks to Donna Philip for purchasing the curtains, to Andrea Payne for hemming them and to Jim Hanson and Sherry Gilliam for installing them.

Also thank you to MaryJo Hamling for planting the flowers in the barrels out front of the book station.

In August, on Friday August 18th, the Lewistown Downtown Association is sponsoring Hot Summer Nights with various events. It was decided to hold the Aug. mid-month book sale that night from 4pm till 7 pm at the Book Station. Alissa is hoping to have live music up on the patio that evening as well. If there are collectible books left over from the July 1 sale, those would also be sold at this sale too.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Next FOL Meeting: Wed. July 26th.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted.

MaryJo Hamling, Secretary