

## Minutes for Friends of the Library Meeting August 31, 2022

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

President Arlene Mari called the meeting to order at 1pm. Minutes and agendas and director's report were distributed. Minutes were approved (motion by Andrea P., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Angie E.)

**Treasurer's Report:** - None Treasurer Tony Gies was not here. Note: Balance as of the July 27, 2022 meeting was \$34,641.52.

**Correspondence:** There was a \$100 donation by Barbara Skaggs in honor of librarian Nancy Sackett. Barbara is a friend of Marian Stevenson.

### Director's Report:

1. Imagination Library – Roll-out: We will start registration online and in-person during Chokeycherry Festival. Board members and staff will be available from 10am till 2pm on the library patio to help sign up people.

Endowment: The CMF (Central MT Foundation) Endowment is up and running. We have raised \$9,236.84 in addition to the \$2,500 permanently endowed with CMF by the FOL.

Potential Involvement for FOL members: We aren't short of volunteers for the rollout but the more the merrier! Also, Chokeycherry is going to be quite hot this year. If anyone is interested in donating treats for volunteers and staff members (e.g. water, ice cream, snacks,) please let me know.

Our staff had a good conversation with the Dillon library, which has the IL program. Rhonda Long had sent an email suggesting library contact CMMC, One Health and Nurses office and daycares.

If any FOL members would like to donate toward the IL available balance, they can.

Also, the CMF can have up to three people who are signers on that endowment account.

For IL the books won't start to be sent to children till November. Alissa and Sue S. were on the radio to explain the program. When the books are sent, the senders address is the FOL plus major donors are listed. The program is open to any kids 0 to age 5 who are residents of Fergus County only.

2. Annual Library Planning: We are continuing to develop these plans and will post events on the website as they are finalized.

3. September events:

9/10 – DPIL roll-out – Library patio 10am till 2 pm

9/20 – Banned Books Week Q & A with Humanities Montana at St. James Church 6 – 8 pm

9/22 – MSL Library Law Workshop for Central Montana (Library 9am till 1 pm.)

9/29 – Latino History in Montana with Humanities Montana Speaker Bridget Kevane (Library 6 – 8 pm)

4. Introduction of Montana Library Association campaign to increase financial support for libraries and secure statewide funding for shared resources. MT state funding is low compared to neighboring states.

MT library to go costs \$3,500 / yr and Cataloging & others costs \$7 – 8,000 per year for our library.

There will be a series of meetings this Fall and some letter writing to legislators. FOL members could be involved if interested.

5. Building Updates: EIFS work is ongoing with the support of the Friends and the Library Board's Building Committee.

August 5/6

Book Sale results: \$813.75

August 12 Bonus mid-month book sale during Cowboy Poetry results: \$399.00.

Upcoming Book sale on 9/2 and 9/3:

Friday 9/2

noon till 2:30 pm

Mary Messina and Pam Koterba

2:30 pm til 5 pm

Ruth Harbour and Andrea Payne

Saturday 9/3

9am till 12:30 pm

Tony and Louise Gies

**Book Station Discussions:** Had table at sales for special books (more collectible) that were individually priced for more than \$1 each. For this next sale, will put those books in the glass case in the front of the checkout counter. (It is difficult for the workers to keep track of these books when they are on a separate table in the station.)

Interest in another middle of the month book sale in Sept.? Date? Possibly Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>?

**Idea to discuss: Free little libraries** set up around town to encourage reading? MaryJo will check with the Reading Council, which is now called the Literacy Council. The contact people are Lora Poser Brown and Karen Hickey.

**Matters pertaining to the Library:**

**Building Committee:** Manufacturer's Rep. Reviewed Library building exterior and indicated it was an easy fix/repair (but not inexpensive.) Int he process of getting invitations to bid – need to follow the City's policies for this.

**Chili Bowl:** Library Board member still talking about having a Chili Bowl event next January. They have ideas for a different format so the Friends don't should a disproportionate amount of the work. They would also like to have an Author's Dinner next May. MaryJo will contact Tim Robertson, who owns Jack's Hangar about this.

**Dolly Parton Imagination Library** kick-off event is Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>. We will have volunteers with computers sitting on the outside deck/patio of the Library. Families with children under the age of 6 can sign up their child to receive a free book in the mail monthly by filling out a form on the computer. There is no charge to the families. Training on the computers will be at 9 am.

As part of the Humanities Montana program, the Library will have a Banned Books Q & A session at St James Episcopal Church on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> from 6pm till 8 pm. A panel will lead the discussion. The purpose of this is to open a dialogue with the community and should be educational for all parties.

For book sales and other upcoming FOL events, it might be good to have a longer-term calendar of when the events will happen. This can help Hidden Montana website and others to feature the events. A discussion was held about the FOL in the past having a postcard with upcoming events on it, which was mailed to FOL members.

Next FOL Meeting: Wednesday September 28<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm in upstairs meeting room.

Meeting was adjourned at 2 pm.