

Friends of the Library Meeting Minutes for Oct. 25, 2023 – postponed/moved to November 1, 2023

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

Pres. Arlene Mari welcomed all at 1 pm.

Disposition of Minutes: These were approved as corrected (motion by Andrea P/ 2nd by Donna P).

Treasurer's Report: Tony G. reported a Balance of: \$47,228.93.

Old/Continuing Business:

October 6 book sale:	\$376.00
October 7 book sale:	<u>325.00</u>
Total for October monthly sale:	\$701.00

Upcoming November book sale:

Fri. (11/03)	noon – 2:30 pm
	2:30 PM – 5:00 PM
Sat. (11/04)	9:00 am – 12:30 pm

Volunteers:

Neil and Donna Philip
Andrea Payne/Angie Eakins
Tony & Louise Gies

Alissa shared that patrons often ask about the book sales and like them.

The Book Station dumpster will be kept locked now.

Brittney U. has started her new job in Great Falls. The selection of a person for this position is complete and a person has been offered a contract. Now library is waiting for them to accept the job.

Suggestion was made to purchase a short stool/seat, perhaps on rollers, to be used at the Book Station so workers can shelve books on the lowest shelves. It is difficult to either sit on the floor or on our knees to sort books on that low level. Motion carried to purchase a stool for up to \$100 (Angie, 2nd Andrea).

Santa's Seconds Sale is Sat. Dec. 2 from 9am till 4pm. The Christmas Book Sale is Dec. 1st and 2nd at Book Station. There will be a sign up sheet for people to work at times to accept donations at the Barnes Street theater.

Status of contract with Judith Mountain Players for the Barnes St. Theater use: Arlene and Donna met with Tom W. and refreshed memories on the layout of the building, signed and paid the contract fee and received a key to use for the theater. The theater and similar places ask groups renting them to have a rider for insurance coverage. Ron Miller from Lewistown Insurance said this could cost quite a bit.

This has been taken care of for this particular sale at the theater.

For the Santa Sale, St. James Episcopal Church has Christmas items left from their rummage sale and are storing those for us at the church. There are five boxes.

At the November Book Sale, it was suggested we give out a notice to each buyer noting the date of the Santa's Seconds Sale as well as dates for public donations-- helps get the word out. Donna is working on a flier to give out. Also will take some to the library for them to distribute also.

It was decided to have a homemade cookie sale again this year. The cost is \$5/plate of a dozen cookies all put in a plastic baggie. People making these are asked to put a note on their cookie plate – what type of cookies, if there are nuts in them, etc.

Discussion of request from Alissa for FOL volunteers for the following assignments:

- digitize existing files
- catalog past Directors' files
- FOL to possibly take over programming of an after-school program for Jr. High kids (chess, games, Dungeons and Dragons, etc.)
- FOL take over volunteer coordination of volunteers at the library
- coordination with FOL and Library volunteers to establish a monthly newsletter

A newsletter was sent out via mail by FOL in the past for several years and then after that there were postcards regularly sent out announcing Library and FOL upcoming events/activities. When Dani B. was library director, she found that the library staff felt this was difficult for them to find time to get lists ready, so was discontinued.

Donna suggested having Drew make a poster in January and share with FOL email and mailing lists. January is time for people to renew memberships or join the FOL.

Alissa will look into the procedures with MMIA about having volunteers under the age of 55 working in the Book Station. Those 55 and older can sign up with RSVP and then are covered while volunteering at the Book Station.

Alissa said she is getting more people who want to volunteer at the library. Possibly it would be helpful to have them meet and develop a new project and have time frames for projects.

For the week of the Santa Seconds and monthly Dec. book sale, here are important dates:

Thursday Nov. 30th 1:30 pm – Getting out the long tables at the theater and arranging them.

This requires some strong, active people.

Friday Dec. 1st Starting at 10am – noon and then noon until finished

Workers putting out the items to be sold and arranging/sorting – for special treasures and silent auction if there are items for this. MaryJo will ask retired school people to help again this year.

Cleanup will be Monday Dec. 4 time to be determined – at the theater and this involves taking some leftovers to Book Station/shed to keep for next year and delivering rest of the leftovers to Treasure Depot. Workers and pickup trucks will be needed (Had 2 vehicles last year.)

Donna suggested having cloth reusable bags to sell at Book Station. A discussion was held.

Director's Report from Alissa W.

Imagination Library (Dolly Parton program for kids up to age 5) 2,084 books have been mailed to local area children since program began in Sept. 2022. Each book has a sticker with Friends of the Library listed on it, plus our sponsors.

Golden Valley and Petroleum Counties will assume responsibility for their own program by the end of 2023. Golden Valley will be handled by the Roundup Library.

Programming: Regular programming continues.

- 1st Tuesday – Misty's Mystery Club
- 2nd Tuesday - Science Fiction and Fantasy Club
- 3rd Tuesday - Curious Cinema Club
- 4th Tuesday - A to Z Club

Fergus County Cold Cases presentation/series has been tabled.

Annual library programming plan is tabled until the new Youth Services Librarian is hired.

Building Update:

See matching letter. A correction from previous report: if \$50,000 is awarded, then \$12,500 would be required for a local match to the CDBlockGrant. The requirement is ¼ of the total grant that needs to be matched. FOL is willing to help with the match.

Cathy M. explained that they feel they have a very strong application.

Funding Request from last month: Library Staff appreciated the new vacuum from the FOL. Thanks to FOL.

For Chili Bowl, motion carried to allocate up to \$5,000 by FOL (Andrea, 2nd Donna P). All funds would run through the FOL account. (this is for items such as food, prizes, and other costs.) Plan is to use the Trade Center for this event.

Chili Bowl: First CHIBICO meeting is pending completion of the above grant.

The committee consists of: Board member: Mary Callahan-Baumstark, Gayle Doney; Staff: Drew Kettering; Director: Alissa; FOL: Mary Mendel, Andrea Payne, Angie Eakins.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm. Last Wed. of Dec. is Dec. 27th – Will FOL meet?