

Friends of the Klamath County Library Board of Directors' Minutes
12 January 2026 via Zoom (virtual meeting) & in person at library

Meeting called to order at 13:30 by Judith Izzo: Jacek Berka (Zoom), Gail Brock, Elaine Deutschman, Judith Izzo (Zoom), Nathalie Naveau (*ex officio*), Ardath McDermott, Fran McDermott (Zoom), Lindsay Silver. Absent: Betty Shaw

Call to Order: Judith Izzo called the meeting to order at 13:35.

Secretary's Report: Elaine Deutschman

MSP: Minutes of 17 November 2025 Board meeting as emailed to members.

- For the minutes, Elaine noted the email vote in December to approve Bylaw change regarding membership meeting dates.
- Correspondence/Memberships/Donations: Correspondence: Postal patron mailings, Chamber Gala invitation, Midland Insurance Christmas letter and Klamath Community Foundation requesting donation which the Board did not support (no formal motion). There is some interest in seeing if FOL might be one of the organizations which the Foundation supports; Fran requested the mailing for reference.
- Donations: PayPal donations from Amy daSaro, Nicole Brewer, Linnea Gebauer, Paula Long. Susan Magnone: \$250 to DPIL and \$1000 to Bonanza library for children's materials.
- Membership: one annual renewal from Paul Long
- Review of calendar items: January: CD renewal on Jan. 21; business registration for the state completed. February: do we appoint a committee to plan volunteer thank you event - board is unsure if this is a worthwhile effort as not many volunteers have attended in the past - more "thought" about what could be done (perhaps a weekend event?). Appoint nominating committee for board members before March membership meeting. Required review of Bylaws and Policies will be handled by Fran McDermott who will bring any issues to Board's attention. March: announce candidates for Board positions to membership at March meeting; decide on Klamath Promise Scholarship donation.
- Elaine is working with local Dutch Brothers coffee owner to have a "give back day" at all outlets on July 17. She will keep Board apprised of needed help and other details.

Treasurer's Report: Elaine Deutschman

- **MSP** to approve November and December 2025 Financial Statements as emailed to members
- Bills/reimbursements: **MSP:** reimburse Jacek Berka for \$16.99 to cover cost of Zoom account for January membership meeting.
- Update on fall 2025 fund drive mailing: mailed about 420 letters, responses were \$1325 for DPIL and \$850 for FOL for a total of \$2175 from about a dozen donors. Discussion followed on whether we should invest in another thank you poster for the front entrance to the library; general conclusion - it is not worth the expense. Elaine will update Nac on donation thank you portion of emails that go to FOL list to better reflect current donors.

Vice President's Report: Fran McDermott

- January 11, 2026 program on a bald eagle pair at the wildlife refuge was very well attended; - about 3 dozen in the audience. Comments were positive afterwards and there were many questions from attendees. The change to Sunday afternoons seems to be a good move. There was a good Zoom "attendance" as well.
- A few changes needs to be made with the Zoom portion of these meetings: folks must be given a deadline by which to apply for the link (folks were sending requests after the meeting had begun) - 10 am on the day of the presentation was suggested. The presentation should be recorded unless the presenter prefers not to have it available after the meeting. The Zoom operator should "mute all participants" from the master computer so someone who hasn't muted his/her microphone doesn't impinge on others with conversations.
- The March meeting will be March 15th at 2 pm at the library; Ron Larson will be talking about Abert Lake. Zoom will be available.
- Grant update: many grant opportunities are limited to counties of less than 35,000 population which eliminates Klamath County organizations. Pacific Corporation, which donated generously to our fund drive, has some specific grants supporting children, youth and families; Fran will pursue those for FOL/DPIL.
- The Circle of Hearts grant that Fran and Elaine prepared in July has garnered no reply from the organization; we assume no grant was given but we've had no notification one way or the other. Hmmmm? Elaine has also applied to the First Interstate Foundation as a result of their response to our fall fund raising letter saying

applications are accepted only through their foundation portal; no response one way or the other there either.

President's Report: Judy Izzo

- Judy turned the meeting over to Ardath McDermott to summarize the webinar she attended in December on common issues that arise with Friends Groups, Library Boards and Foundations. Board members were emailed a copy of Ardath's summary which she quickly reviewed for the Board: (a) how to get members of these groups more involved by being specific about what needs doing, give members a role they're interested in; (b) embrace change - this creates sustainability; (c) how to involve younger people by using more social media, holding meetings for specific topics - not just meeting to meet, setting meeting times to fit younger peoples' schedules, recognizing that having younger people will mean changes as younger people operate differently and even creating a "youth" board position; (d) focus on the most important role of a small, rural library which is connection.
- Judy recently responded to emails FOL has received. There is a new effort by IYS to assist young mothers with housing and support services; IYS sent out requests for help from organizations in town. Judy responded with information on programs at the library for young children and mothers and offered to get DPIL applications to these mothers.
- Judy reminded Board members of an earlier offer from the Chamber of Commerce to help find Board members for non-profits in the county as the Chamber hears from business leaders that they're willing to step up. Judy sent a letter describing what FOL does, what the FOL Treasurer (bookkeeper) does and how many hours are involved in that position; she also mentioned that we could use an at-large board member. The Chamber is posting this on their monthly newsletter and they're getting responses. Fingers crossed.
- Judy thinks we should also send this "request" letter to our members, via email; she is working on that letter. Elaine will provide email list to Judy.
- Judy has been investigating additional sources of funding and came on the Rotary Club web page where she noted they have an application form for activities that support children. She asked Elaine about her experience presenting about DPIL a couple of years ago; Elaine felt that the Rotary's program of giving books to first graders was the extent to which they wanted to be involved with books for kids. Nathalie reported that in the past, as part of their presentation of the books, Rotary gave a packet of materials from the library including an application for a library card and a schedule of summer reading program events. The library was not contacted last year but apparently there was a presentation in June at OIT. Judy thanked board members for info and will consider if we should reach out to Rotary.
- Judy wondered if we'd contacted United Way about being on their list of groups; Nathalie asked them and was told they're revamping how they disburse money and will be asking for grant applications. Right now, things at United Way are at sixes and sevens - we'll just keep watching for an opportunity to apply for funds from them.

Committee Reports:

- **DPIL:** Current registrations: Nathalie reports 1670 current registrants and 3159 graduates. The state coordinator for DPIL Oregon will be meeting with FOL Board members on March 4th at the library to let us know what's up and to learn what we might need from that office. Nathalie's projections on DPIL budget indicate we're ok for another year - numbers of registrants is declining and we haven't tapped "promised" money from FOL.
- **Bookie Joint:** BJ goes on about as usual. Gail reported that a "ton" of Christmas books sold over the holidays. Elaine reported on the stocking stuffer Bookie Joint gift certificate sales: we sold 23 (10 to Judy Izzo - thanks Judy). The effort seems worthwhile as it may bring new customers to the BJ (and if not, we raised some money with the certificates); next year, need to do a bit more planning to include BJ volunteers (perhaps including info with the emailed BJ schedule in November) and more signage to alert shoppers. We may want to include both \$5 and \$1 certificates - we had one person who wanted to buy 20 \$1 certificates for grandchildren (Elaine made those specially for this customer).
- **Bookie Joint Volunteer Update:** There are no new volunteers in the queue and we're short volunteers for several regular slots - a Saturday and a couple of Wednesdays; this has necessitated some closures recently.

Library Director's Report:

- Circulation figures and library patron-attendance remain steady.
- The grant application to Ford Family Foundation for new computers in children's area to be submitted next week (using FOL's non-profit status).
- New adult programs include: Great Decisions, Arts for All (January is Learn to Knit), Society for Creative

Anachronism returns; and ODEQ Food Systems Community Workshop.

- "The Librarians", a special film event regarding librarians' efforts to combat book banning, to support intellectual freedom in Texas, Florida and elsewhere - Saturday, Jan 31st at library.
- Southern Oregon author event on 3/31; if you know any authors from southern Oregon, please have them get in touch with library.
- Puzzle Palooza 1/28 @ 5:30 pm.

New Business

- No additional items of new business were offered.

Meeting adjourned at 14:45

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Deutschman, Secretary
Friends of the Klamath County Library