**Friends of the Klamath County Library Board of Directors’ Minutes**

**16 October 2023 *via* Zoom (virtual meeting) & in person at library**

Meeting called to order at 13:30 by President Judith Izzo. Board members present: Jacek Berka (Zoom), Gail Brock, Elaine Deutschman, Judith Izzo (Zoom), Nathalie Johnston (*ex* officio), Fran McDermott, Dona Nelson, Mickie Vanderburg. Absent: Dorothy Hudson, Betty Shaw.

**Call to order:** Judith Izzo

The regular order for the meeting is changed for this meeting so that President Izzo can leave early for a medical appointment. Her report occurs first.

**President’s Report:** Judy Izzo

* Seeking a new treasurer: Dorothy wishes to leave the board, perhaps sooner than later. Judy has talked to Elaine about what Dorothy does each month; now she does the monthly Financial Report and takes care of any tax filings needed. We need someone to handle the Financial Statement and taxes. We may have to hire an outside CPA to handle taxes (as the Foundation does). Nathalie volunteered to do the Financial Statements temporarily but is concerned about ethics as that statement is a check on her library expenditures of FOL money. High priority to train someone to do those monthly.
* Plexiglas sneeze guard in the Bookie Joint was removed at volunteers’ request; it is stored upstairs in the library should it be needed again. Judy is concerned that if Covid or another communicable disease appears again, we might lose volunteers who don’t want to be exposed unless we remount it. Several people felt the sneeze guard really didn’t do all that much to stop transmission of Covid. We’ll face that issue when/if we must. There apparently are no masks available in the BJ nor does the library have a supply. We may have to replace those if another “event” arises.
* Civic organization appeals: Fran is joining Judy at a DPIL presentation in Merrill to learn how such appeals are done. Judy volunteered to model presentations for anyone else who’d like to help with those. Are there other civic organizations we should approach? Mickie has volunteered to visit the Elks after she joins Fran and Judy at Merrill. Others: Quota Club, Assistance League, Soroptimists, Chamber of Commerce (Mickie?).

At this point, Fran McDermott assumed the chair position as Judy left for her medical appoint.

**Secretary’s Report:**  Elaine Deutschman

* **MSP** to approve the minutes of the 18 September 2023 Board meeting and 20 September 2023 Membership meeting.
* For the record, the email vote to approve the $500 expense for books for the Community Baby Shower..
* Correspondence: Incoming: A check for $20,042.50 to cover what FOL gave to the library for the Finch robot program and an appeal from the Mission. Outgoing: thank yous for donations.
* Donations: Kiwanis, $2000 for DPIL; Ron and Fabian Baker, $500 to FOL; one PayPal donation of $15
* Review of calendar items: November: **>**Fund drive for DPIL in past years; should we do it again or wait a year? If we wait, will people think DPIL has gone away? It would help to spend down some of our money so we again can file federal taxes on a postcard rather than doing a full-blown filing. General consensus – don’t do a DPIL fund drive this year. Depend on donations from civic groups and see what happens. Fran and Dorothy have agreed that Fran would ease up on grant writing for the time being; Fran will keep an eye out for grants that are specific to our efforts but not scour the grant offerings for opportunities. >Calendar also lists doing a full-year Bookie Joint schedule; Dona Nelson sees no need for that as there’s a master BJ schedule on the Drive and she sends out a monthly schedule well ahead of time so volunteers know when they’ll be working the next month. Consensus: remove that item from the calendar. > December: In the past we’ve sent out a thank you letter to the Rippey Foundation. We’ve been keeping a low profile on that of late because we thought that funding would disappear but thus far, it has not. Should we send a letter this year? Yes, include info number of kids and books etc. Fran pointed out (from an NPR report she heard) that the Eugene-Springfield school district did some research on reading proficiency among students who had been in DPIL and found they were nearly 40% more reading-ready than kids who didn’t participate in DPIL. Nathalie pointed out that the Oregon State Legislature passed a bill near the end of the session that would provide funding to set up a DPIL-like program for Oregon kids but details of what counties would get how much money have yet to be worked out.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Dorothy absent.

 No September Financial Statement to be approved

**Vice President’s Report:** Fran McDermott

 Fran is working on topics for upcoming membership meetings. The Waste Management recycling outreach person has asked to give a virtual presentation on recycling for the holidays. Fran has pointed out to her that we don’t have any more meetings until January but would be happy to have her present then or in March; Fran is awaiting a response. > Elaine has volunteered to present a talk on her recent canal boat trip in France. > In lieu of the canceled Winter Wings Festival in February, Fran would like to have a presentation on walking wetlands at the Klamath Wildlife Refuge. Nothing confirmed yet for the January meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

* **DPIL**: 1814 youngsters getting books; 2058 have graduated. FOL has sent 90,244 books and spent over $93,000 since inception of the program. We have reached 3953 kids since the program began; the 2020 census indicates there are 4048 children under 5 years of age in the county so we’re meeting our initial goals.

The Community Baby Shower was well attended; DPIL applications went to 136 parents and books to about 6 dozen youngsters. Dona is processing the many applications that come in from the Pediatric Clinic; the clinic staff photocopy a registration form for their clients and encourage them to register.

* **Bookie Joint:** The Bookie Joint is doing well. September receipts were up over previous months. On October 28th, in conjunction with the downtown Scarecrow Row event, the Bookie Joint will have a bag sale of children’s books. The event will be outside if weather permits. Gail’s sister will assist Gail with that event.
* **Bookie Joint Volunteer Update:**  Dona is getting schedules done for November and December as she will be having additional surgery and be on medical leave for November and December. At this time, all slots in the Bookie Joint are filled and the schedule is going along fine.

**Library Director’s Report: Nathalie Johnston**

* Circulation numbers are up for September.
* Nathalie has taken over the Youth Services department since Charla left. There will be no new programs until Charla’s replacement is hired. There remains a fair amount of training for new people in Youth Services that wasn’t finished before Charla left. Wes Stone will be handling the Finch Robots program but the timeline is being adjusted to account for the change. Wes was complimented by FOL members for his help in handling Zoom meetings during Nathalie’s vacation absence.

**New Business:**

**** Setting up an eBay account: the library is withdrawing several video games and books which “aficionados” say are worth a lot more money than they’d sell for in the Bookie Joint. Nathalie suggests that FOL set up an eBay account through which we could market these withdrawals. Jacek Berka has agreed to set up the account. He will check if there is a special category for non-profit organizations. He will be in touch with the Board regarding the account. Pricing items for posting isn’t yet an assigned duty.

Meeting adjourned at 14:30

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Deutschman, Secretary

Friends of the Klamath County Library