Present: Chuck Wells (KF), Pat Escamilla (Keno), Cindy DeRosier (KF), Gay Jarvinen (Chiloquin), Lois Taysom (Merrill), Nathalie Johnston (Director), Cindy Williams (Recorder).

Call to order: 12:03 p.m.

Minutes: M/S/Approved.

Branch Reports: Lois reported that the games have arrived and are very popular. After school, there are lots of kids playing games instead of using the computers. The Merrill City Council will be donating to D.P.I.L.

Gay reported that things are about the same in Chiloquin. Blackstone Market is donating treats for Storytimes and last Wednesday there were a lot of kids! Yesterday was slow due to the bad weather.

Pat reported that the Keno Teen Book Club is meeting the 1st & 3rd Saturday. The display theme for February is: Black History Month, Valentines Day, and the color Red. The branch will be hosting a Book Tasting on February 25th.

Cindy reported that the library is full of lots of new ideas. A grant is possible from Klamath Cultural Coalition for assistance with the crochet class. Cindy might donate crochet hooks.

Chuck is recommending “The Avoidable War” by Kevin Rudd which discusses the dangers of a conflict with the U.S. and China.

Judy emailed a report. The Friends have two new applicants for the board. There are two bills in the Oregon legislature in committee about funding D.P.I.L. The cost is about $45,000 a year and serves about 1700 kids.

Director: Circulation is higher in all branches except for Sprague River which is a little lower. Attendance is up at the main library to pre-pandemic levels. Y.S. circulation is now higher than before the pandemic! Adult circulation is lower, but the digital numbers are higher. We added Overdrive magazines and in January 2,500 magazines were checked out. There are no limits and they are available in multiple languages.

Youth Services are busy getting ready for the S.R.P. the theme is Find Your Voice. Staff will be meeting on February 17th to start planning. Spring Break is full of activities. We have hired a new Library Assistant III Desiree Ogborn who is from the area and is excited to work with teens. Charla will be applying for a grant for a summer intern from June through August. We will still have the one intern from the School District for one month.

Adult Services is hosting “Can Your Food Choices Save the Planet” on 3/ at 5:30pm, presented by Tate Mackrell nutritionist from Natural Grocers.
Conversation on Death and Dying 3/22 at 5:30pm with Marci McEnroe.

Vegetable Gardening 3/21 at Noon @ South, 3/23 5:30pm, and 3/25 10:30am
Presented by Nicole Sanchez, OSU Extension Office. Nathalie will distribute seeds to branches next week and the leftovers can be distributed to the public after the program.

More books and dvd’s will be sent to Chemult to increase their honor collection in the hopes of bringing in more patrons. Hannah Jones has been hired as the Chemult/Gilchrist substitute.

The Library budget work shop is scheduled for the end of February. No date has been given yet for the budget hearing. As soon as Nathalie knows she will send the information to the Advisory Board members. Our budget has been entered, but our personnel file has not been uploaded due to issues with their system.

The contract for the carpet replacement was approved at yesterday’s B.O.C.C. meeting. We are just waiting for the contractor for both the carpet and bathroom remodel project to give us start dates. A dishwasher has been ordered. The wireless printing has been set up and patrons can now pay with a credit card.

There has been issues with patrons not leaving the building at closing time. We notify patrons fifteen minutes before and several times people have been going into the restrooms instead of leaving the building. We installed locks on the bathrooms and put up signs stating “bathroom closed fifteen minutes before closing”. The door handles have been removed and it is much easier to open the doors.

New rules will be enforced in the periodicals area once the carpet project is completed. A big sign will be put up so patrons can follow the rules and the couches will be cleaned. New signs that are color coded are now being used for the program room. Green-available, orange-need to be registered, and red-not available. Parents need to accompany their children.

We are sending 5 staff members to the Oregon Library Association conference in Bend. Nathalie will be attending the Public Library Director’s meeting in March.

Adjourned: 12:32

Next Meeting: Noon March 15, 2023. In person and Zoom.