

**Friends of the Fresno County Public Library**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**September 23, 2024**  
Fig Garden Library

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Shannon Wise, Kristie Leyba, Nancy Kast, Nick Andrade, Becky Brown, Mark Kalchik, Butch Dies, Rosa Huerta, Brian Baker

**REGRETS:** Dan Dunklee, Vicki Love, Jim Poptanich, Lyn Peters (resigned)

**ABSENT:** Ashley Rice

**ALSO PRESENT:** Susan Renfro

**1. CALL TO ORDER/OPENING REMARKS**

- The meeting was called to order at 7:01 by President Shannon Wise.

**2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF REGRETS AND EXCUSED ABSENCES**

**3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM JULY 22, 2024 MEETING**

- **Motion by:** Brian Baker
- **Seconded by:** Nick Andrade
- **Carried**

**4. LIBRARY ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORT – SUSAN RENFRO**

- Next steps for Politi: the building owner's architect will be used for the project, so a meeting will be held soon regarding any upcoming construction. The cost of rehabbing the building is built into the lease for five years.
- Clovis and Reedley: Request for Proposal presentations have already been held and will be rated this week and sent to Public Works, then County Counsel, then the Board of Supervisors. There are currently three firms in the running.
- Central is under renovations and is already in Phase II of work. The louvers have been removed, double pane tinted windows are being installed, roof work has been completed, and electrical work will be done sometime in the near future.
- The League of Women Voters will be doing a series of presentations on voting in advance of the election. This will cover broad topics like how to vote, where to vote, how to register and check your registration, et cetera.
- Library Card Sign-Up Month: the Library is currently about one thousand sign-ups behind the goal with one week to go.
- Some branches will be making changes to their hours at the end of the month.
- Wednesday is the State of the County luncheon, where Penny Hill will be given a lifetime achievement award. After some discussion, it was agreed that the Friends would send her a congratulatory card.
- Fresno County Reads begins October 1 and runs through the end of November.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

- **T-shirts**
  - i. There's been a minor delay regarding the design.

- ii. The Library is currently finalizing the list of services for the word cloud. Once that's done, we can create the webpage for the QR code to direct to.
- **Volunteer day with Provost and Pritchard**
  - i. Provost and Pritchard is an engineering firm in Clovis. They had reached out to Chann at the Library, who put us in touch.
  - ii. We had 15 volunteers who helped clean out the warehouse at Derrell's and filled eight palletized gaylord boxes (delivered by our recycling partner, Neighborhood Industries), then helped organize the rest of the boxes in the storage space.
  - iii. We provided them with bookmarks and snacks and asked them to please take any books they wanted. The work didn't take long, but everyone had a great time and several of the volunteers intend to help out at the Bookshop.
  - iv. Kristie Leyba suggested a quarterly warehouse clean-up day so we can recruit on a regular basis, perhaps starting in November or during Winter Break. Nancy Kast will check in with our warehouse volunteer, Ernesto.
- **Potential Big Book Sale in the new Politi building**
  - i. Terry Eckman is in favor of a book sale in the new building, but it will be a matter of trying to find a time that allows us to recruit volunteers and accept donations without interfering with the construction timeline. The ideal timing would be between when the Library gets the key and when they start moving furniture in. It's possible that this is about a year away.
  - ii. We will create a committee to take charge of the project once we know when we can access the building.
- **Annual Meeting**
  - i. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 1 at Betty Rodriguez.

## 6. BOARD REPORTS

- **INTERIM PRESIDENT SHANNON WISE**
  - i. Shannon suggested doing some promotional tabling for Fresno County Reads. Kristie Leyba said she would look into tabling at the Zoo, which seems like a natural tie-in. The Executive Team has talked about the potential of doing a contest with Chaffee Zoo and Monterey Bay Aquarium passes as prizes.
- **VICE PRESIDENT, MEMBERSHIP AND NOMINATING – BECKY BROWN**
  - i. National Friends of Libraries Week takes place October 20-26. We'll be posting pictures and videos from as many members and branches as possible.
  - ii. This year, Ernesto, who manages our warehouse, was the Library's Volunteer of the Year, and they created a great video about him. It was suggested that we show this video at the next Annual Meeting.

- iii. Kristie Leyba mentioned that Los Angeles County has a teacher-specific library card that allows for more checkouts and longer checkout terms and asked if that might be possible in Fresno.
  - **TREASURER—NICK ANDRADE**
    - i. The financial reports for August were not available yet. Based on July's report, we are in a strong cash position with \$6.3 million in investments. There is one Noble Credit Union check missing for April, but our Credit Union dues are way above budget.
    - ii. Taxes must be filed by November 15 and are in the works now.
- 7. BOOKSHOP UPDATE**
- Tuesdays are starting to get busier and there have been more volunteers lately.
  - The Bookshop recently got a new pencil sharpener and a label maker.
- 8. OLD BUSINESS**
- None.
  - **NEXT MEETING: Monday, October 28 at 7 PM at Fig Garden.**
- 9. ADJOURNMENT**
- **Motion by:** Brian Baker
  - **Seconded by:** Kristie Leyba
  - **Carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.**

**Submitted by Sam Retton, Executive Assistant.**