



Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library
Board Meeting Minutes, May 19, 2021

Board members present: Brent Clark Palmer, Patricia Walters, Nani Banks, Carol Pearson, Peggy Johnson, and Barbara Lupei. **Library Administrator:** Charissa Wagner. **Guest:** Dane Scharff

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. The agenda was approved. The minutes of the April 21, 2021 meeting were approved.

Librarian's Report: Charissa reported

- Charissa gave a tour of the new layout and talked about the makerspace. There will be a user agreement and liability waiver signed along with a little bit of training for the specific equipment someone wants to use as some can be harmful if not used properly (sewing machine, 3D printer, soldering iron can cause injury). We're working on a way to track that info and let people sign up for appointments. Material to be provided by the library and additional items can be brought in by people. Phased roll out of availability for the equipment.
- No changes to current days/hours but people are liking that they do not need to make an appointment to come in. They are liking the new layout of the library.
- Summer Reading Challenge is moving forward with supplies ordered and received. We're doing an Activities To Go bag on Mondays for kids, Art To go bag on Wednesdays for kids, plus a periodic teen and adult bag (Zen garden kit and two painting activities).
- Lunch will continue in a Grab and Go (drive through) format like last summer, Mon-Thu from 11 am to 12 pm, starting June 2 through July 22.
- Summer Reading Challenge allows all ages to choose 10 books or 10 hours this summer. Reading and listening counts. Finishers will enable items to be purchased for Veteran Care Packages, with items such as snacks, drink mix, water bottle, small activity pad (playing cards, crossword puzzle book) and will likely be given to Carol Coy of Ridgecrest Veterans Advisory Committee (RVAC) to hand out. Items on list were modeled after the Operation Gratitude care package requests.
- Wood shelving that suffered from water damage and cannot be used in the public area of the library will be moved to the Dispensary, along with the chair purchased for the Friend's volunteers in the sales room and the existing plaque on the wall. Existing shelf for in library sale will need to be replaced soon with either a 4' or shorter freestanding, single sided unit or a taller MOBILE unit, to bypass the requirement of being anchored to the ground. The display case will be moved to where the existing shelf is so that the holds that have come in can be moved out into the public area again for people to grab on their own in the future.

President's Report: Brent reported

- Brent introduced our guest, Dane Scharff, a local IT professional, veteran, and podcaster who is interested in the makerspace. Brent has a vision of people like Dane supporting the makerspace, perhaps even hosting a users group to provide opportunities for people to join and learn.
- Weekly volunteers at the Dispensary are now focusing more on the booksale and memberships than on sorting. The weekly sales are making enough money to raise as much as a

big sale without the hours and hours of prep work and the need to call on outside volunteers. Sorting is now secondary.

- He sees the possibility of the Bakersfield supporters buying a truckload of books from us at something like \$1,000 a month for their sale space. If they make more than that from the books they could either keep it or donate it back to FRBL.

Vice President of Book Sales - vacant

- **Treasurer's Report:** Nani reported
- She provided the financial report for April 2021. She highlighted income and expenses from the report. The audit was completed on May 14th. The auditors, Naomi Norris and Kathy Killinger, are writing up their findings which we will have for the August meeting.
- Nani made a **motion** that the annual budget be changed as follows: Lower the equipment budget from \$8K to \$4K and raise the book trust budget from \$6K to \$10K. The motion was seconded and passed.

Vice-President, Membership Report: Carol reported

- Since our last meeting I have logged in eight renewals and five new members.

Old Business:

- The Little Free Library in Inyokern has needed to be moved to a safer location for some time now. Patricia suggested a location behind Classic Burgers that is under good lighting. Brent offered to contact the owner/manager and seek permission.
- Peggy has found the LFL on Upjohn completely empty a couple of times when she went to check on it. This is unusual and may be a problem.
- The LFL near DART hasn't reported any recent problems.

New Business:

Dane mentioned a few of his ideas for the makerspace. He is interested in teaching podcasting and recording how-to videos to post on YouTube. He also suggested hosting a musical event as a fundraiser. He works full time, but has arranged to take an hour off each month to attend our meetings. A **motion** was made to elect Dane into the position of member-at-large. The motion was seconded and passed.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

The next Board meeting will be **Wednesday, August 18** at 10:00 a.m. at the Ridgecrest Library Community Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Lupei, Secretary