

River Friends of the Library
Board Meeting
Final Minutes
Guerneville Regional Library
Wednesday, February 14, 2024 @ 4:30 pm

Present: BJ Kowal, Gina Dallara, Anita Elam, Terry Gwiazdowski, Allison Randall
Absent: Elisa Baker, Damien Olsen

The meeting was called to order at 4:35.

The minutes of our last meeting on October 11, 2023, will be approved (along with these minutes) at our April 10, 2024, meeting.

There were no Library Administration present so there was no system-wide update.

Allison Randall gave the Branch Manager update.

Teen programming is very active. Stuart Wilkinson, the Teen Library has several ongoing programs. The Dungeons and Dragons gaming is once a week and has great attendance. Also weekly is the program "Game On" using gaming equipment that the River Friends had purchased such as the Nintendo Switch and X Box. There is good attendance there as well. A monthly program "Banned Camp" is a banned books club that has started up and should get more attendance as time goes on. River Friends also purchased books for that program.

Young Writers under the stewardship of the teen library is underway and has been added to the local schools' English class curriculum.

As for Adult/Senior programming – Leslie Harrison has met with the staff at the Guerneville Senior Center and will be making a presentation about library services to the center on March 14th.

The language program – Intercambio is going strong with Michael from Books and Letters as host.

Childrens programming is ramping up. In addition to Family Storytime and the First Chapter Book club, Allison Randall has met with the principal at Forestville School to plan for book talks with the older grades with Stuart Wilkinson and another First Chapter Book Club for 2nd and 3rd graders at the school. Allison will be joining the principal at her Coffee with the Principal morning event to discuss that and home literacy.

President's Report – Terry Gwiazdowski

Terry discussed the success of the planning meeting that was held at the Library on Saturday, January 20th. We were successful in establishing a true book and bake sale committee. Linda Swan is the new chair and the members are: Damien Olsen, Gina Dallara, Mary Potje, Dave, Jeannie Reggio, Marilyn Wolters, and Dottie Ruppert.

Terry will meet first with Linda to prepare for the first committee meeting on Thursday, February 22nd at 1:30 p.m. and the committee meeting will take place on Monday, February 26th at 1 p.m.

Treasurer's Report – Terry Gwiazdowski

With Anita recovering Terry did the treasurer report. It covers October 12, 2023 till February 14, 2024. We have \$59,031.00 in our account.

Revenue is as follows:

Book cart sales of	\$159.40
Book sales of	\$3,927.79
Total of	\$4,087.19

Expenses of Insurance	\$1,015.00
Librarian Requests of	\$2,369.41
Rent of	\$195.00
Other expenses of	\$1,378.36 (such as advertising, office supplies, refreshments)
Total of	\$4,957.77

Membership Report – Gina Dallara

We have a total of 105 active members of which 55 are lifetime members. The fall membership drive brought in some renewals, but we are lower than we had been in total membership. The spring renewal mailing will go out at the end of March.

Book and Bake Sale – Terry Gwiazdowski

Nothing else to mention other than from the president's report which discussed that we now have a true membership committee.

Young Writers – BJ Kowal

The contest information is out there at the schools. Students have until March 1st to submit their essays. BJ will hold a meeting after the essays are returned to the library to be judged. The ceremony will be held on Saturday, April 6th from 2-3 p.m. Allison mentioned that on that morning she will be holding a Community Services Storytime with fireman and other community service folks reading at the Storytime. Lynda Hopkins will be in attendance. Terry also mentioned that National Library Week is also around this same time. She found out that it will run from April 7 through April 13.

There was no report on the Readers Theatre committee.

Other Topics/Discussion

We already discussed the January planning meeting in the president's report. Terry just reminded us of the Monday, February 26th meeting at 1 p.m. of the Book and Bake Sale Committee.

Zoom. Terry asked for feedback on whether we should keep our yearly subscription to Zoom or not. Feedback was positive that we should. And maybe continue to hold our board meetings via Zoom at least through the inclement weather months.

Gina brought up that we have one free book cart (from Cazadero General Store) and asked if anyone had any ideas of where we could place it. We can think about it and bring up suggested locations to her.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m. There was no executive session. Next meeting will be held on Wednesday April 10th at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom.