

Chico Friends of the Library Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2018

Present: Elizabeth Bergthold, Margaret Bomberg, Debbie Cobb, Susan Davis, Ann Elliott, Katherine Gould, Nancy Leek, Marian Milling, Jen Rold, Mary Wahl, Brenda Crotts

Absent: Patti Conlin

Guests: Jorge A. Acosta, Alex Chen, Diane Friedman, Doug Teeter, Melanie Lightbody, Susie Serrano, Larry Wahl

Meeting called to order at 7:08 pm after library tour and refreshments. All were welcomed and introductions made.

Treasurer's report:

Business as usual. CFOL has spent less lately. Several significant memorial donations were received. Since there was no Annie B's drive this year, CFOL may want to do a direct appeal for funds.

Minutes: Minutes may not have been distributed from November meeting so approval for them was tabled. They will be sent again to be approved at the February meeting.

Book sale:

Sale receipts for December were \$4498 which was excellent considering there were only 3 sales. For the calendar year 2017, \$61,016.85 was raised which is a little less than in 2016.

More cashiers are always needed for both First Friday and Saturday morning book sales as well as any other book sale volunteers to help with setup and take down.

Librarian's Report:

A staff request for \$250 to underwrite the annual volunteer lunch was brought forward. MB(m), DC(s) to allot \$250 for the lunch which will be held on Thursday, March 1.

Local author Michelle Hastie has approached about doing a book signing promotion for her newest book "Have Your Cake and Be Happy Too: A Joyful Approach to Weight Loss." Marian will get the book and read it first. This might be appropriate for the annual program in May.

Statistics for November-December were discussed.

Holiday Buy-the-Book promotion netted 90 new items for the library collection with over \$1500 received.

County Librarian:

Melanie Lightbody formalized the staff changes coming shortly at Chico: Brenda Crotts is retiring Jan. 31, and longtime staff member and current manager of Paradise Branch, Susie Serrano, will take her place on Feb. 1. A difficult financial period for the county in next few years is anticipated due to rising costs and flat property taxes. There will likely be cuts to all department budgets including the library's although no numbers have been seen yet. The first goal for library administration is to preserve hours.

Draft MOU's regarding a possible CFOL-initiated library addition to accommodate book sale activities have been sent and will be reviewed at a meeting with county architectural/development staff on January 17.

LAB: LAB recently got training from North Valley Community Foundation. It also had a meeting with Mel Lightbody on the budget. Current thinking is that libraries may need to do private fundraising and might find social media especially helpful for this. The LAB is meeting at Chico Branch on January 17 and will discuss library funding among other topics.

Other:

Little Free Libraries: No news here; waiting for the report and recommendations from the CFOL subcommittee. The country is continuing to transition out of supporting little libraries.

Library Expansion Feasibility Study: As mentioned above, a meeting of key players from CFOL and the county is taking place at Chico on January 17. Right now there are more questions than answers after reading the MOU's and learning of the future financial outlook for the county. Concern from reading the MOU's was the cost of ongoing maintenance and insurance for an addition.

New Business:

February Newsletter: Articles were assigned as follows with a due date to Ann of January 22.

Trivia Bee: Nancy	Grants/Virtual Reality: Alex
Membership: Mary	Brenda's Retirement: Marian
Susie: Diane	Barbara Seawall: Ann, Susan

Barbara Seawall Memorial: Several ideas were put forward to establish a permanent memorial for Barbara Seawall in the library. Library staff who worked with her will be consulted for ideas, and this will be revisited at a future meeting.

Membership Drive: There will not be a formal membership drive this year, but envelopes will be sent with February newsletters, and a reminder will be put in the monthly e-blast to CFOL members.

Earbuds: The library needs more. AE(m), MB(s) to purchase 100 earbuds at \$1/each. They will be sold at cost.

Brenda's Retirement: Brenda will be feted during her last full week of work at the library. CFOL and staff will provide daily refreshments. Mary and Katherine will contribute on January 25, and Marian and Nancy on January 26.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:33. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 20 at 7 pm.