

Chico Friends of the Library Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2018

Present: Elizabeth Bergthold, Margaret Bomberg, Patti Conlin, Susan Davis, Ann Elliott, Diane Friedman, Katherine Gould, Marian Milling, Jen Rold, Mary Wahl, Susie Serrano

Absent: Debbie Cobb, Nancy Leek

Guests: Alex Chen, Julissa Winton, Washington

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm. All were welcomed and introductions made.

Treasurer's report:

Memberships are coming at a good rate—members received renewal reminders online and with the recent newsletter. Income is down about \$20,000 versus last year at this time mostly due to not having Annie B's fund drive and the grant from the city. Susan Davis tendered her resignation as treasurer after 18 years serving in that position. MB(m), JR(s) to accept Susan's resignation (with regret). PC(m), MM(s) to approve Diane Freidman as interim treasurer. All ayes.

Minutes:

Minutes from November and January meetings were approval. AE(m), SD(s). All ayes.
Minutes are online and are searchable with expert help from Diane.

Book sale:

More cashiers are always needed for both First Friday and Saturday morning book sales.

Librarian's Report:

Susie Serrano attended her first meeting as Chico Branch Manager. She distributed several copies of monthly statistics for January; most categories are holding their own. The downturn of cardholders during the last six months is due to a purge of inactive cards that took place in September.

The annual Volunteer Potluck is Thursday, March 1 from noon to 2 pm in the meeting room.

The public computer area is equipped to handle two more stations and needs the hardware and licensing to put them in place. These additional stations for the public were not covered in the Maker Space allocation and plan.

The Rob Atkinson plaque referred to the former leather chair, now gone, so Susie will have wording changed and then the plaque will be hung with the other acknowledgements in the meeting room. Susie found Barbara Seawall's book sale keys and will save them to include with the memorial once it's decided on.

A \$3000 open-ended donation has been received and may be used for the following items that staff wants:

*Alex wants two tables for the **Maker Lab** (new name). He will coordinate with Ann on these.

*Sheryl would like some new furniture for the children's room.

*Several new monitors are needed **for the Maker Lab**. Susie said she could get a favorable quote on them.

MB(m), SD(s) to buy 4 new monitors and the tables and whatever else is needed. All ayes.

Julissa Winton, Spanish Language Coordinator for the library, talked about the planning for the annual "Celebration de las Americas" held at the library. This is a large and very successful event to bring all local Spanish communities together. September 29 from 1-5 pm when the library is open in this year's date for it.

Julissa also showed the new large format Spanish language books purchased by CFOL for use at her large storytime.

Plaques and signs are needed for the new Maker Lab—the official name of the maker space. The back portion of it is open, but the front is only available by appointment with staff supervision now. A ribbon cutting for it will be held before summer.

Popular mystery author J.A. Jance is expected to appear and do a talk and book signing at Chico Branch on Tuesday, March 27 at 7 pm in the library in front of the Maker Lab. Publicity will be done starting about 2 weeks prior after firm confirmation of her appearance. Katherine, Marian, Mary, Patti, and Alex said they would volunteer to assist with the program. It was suggested to have tickets for it on EventBrite. It is free.



The feasibility contract for possible book sale area expansion has been signed. County staff will come and observe book sale practices and sales.

Insurance will be required for CFOL in the future, likely in the next year both for liability and for directors/boards. No action will be taken until it is mandatory.

LAB: (and next newsletter)

The next newsletter will go out in April; topics for it will be assigned at the March meeting. Nonmembers who want to see the newsletter can get a print copy at the library (by volunteer sign in book in back) or online.

Jen is on a subcommittee to research stable funding; a sales tax measure is under consideration. She has been going to Friends' groups to "test the waters." A straw poll was taken at our meeting to see if board members would support a tax increase for library operations. To help support libraries right now, members might want to visit the website "everylibrary.org."

Social Media Intern: This position is going to happen soon. The Friends' needs have been combined with those of library tech to make a position with more hours that will be paid through a work/study program.

Little Free Libraries: Several free library kits are still available for construction from staff member Oliver.

NEW BUSINESS

We have a new membership chair: Elizabeth Bergthold. Yeah!! She will be learning on the job.

Annual Meeting: Different possible speakers were discussed. Names to follow up on are Michelle Hastie, Nancy Weigman, and Jennifer Jewell. We will need nominations for the offices of President and Treasurer. Board members will be contacted to learn their intention of continuing.

Cupcake Sale: Usually in April, but have not heard anything yet. Ann will be the liaison with Century 21.

Purchase Allocations for library materials: Currently CFOL gives \$6000/month for library materials and \$300/month for supplies and miscellaneous. AE(m), JR(s) to continue allocations at these same amounts. All eyes.

Other:

Susie would like to do a marketing campaign for the library in the next year.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:55. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 20, at 7 pm.