

**Chico Friends of the Butte County Library,
aka. Chico Friends of the Library, CFOL**
Minutes of Board July 21, 2020

Present via Zoom online: Elizabeth Bergthold, Sandy Boyd, Brenda Crotts, Diane Friedman, Katherine Gould, Keith Herritt, Nancy Leek, Satsie Veith

Absent: Margaret Bomberg, Merle Burbridge

Staff: Janae Kambestad (Chico Library Manager)

Nancy Leek called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Reports

Treasurer: The board reviewed reports for the previous fiscal year and the current month as presented by Treasurer Diane Friedman. She pointed out that in the last fiscal year CFOL had \$23,000 more in income than expenses, even with loss of book sale income due to the virus.

Minutes: The minutes of the February, April, and June meetings were approved. (Boyd, Gould, approved.)

Book Sale: Nancy stated that the book sale is unlikely to reopen this year. Meanwhile Internet sales are doing very well. Despite the library's no-donations policy, people still drop off books. Nancy and Helen are sorting these and some are placed for sale in the foyer.

Librarian's Report: Branch Manager Janae Kambestad reported that attendance since the library reopened after July 4 has been about a quarter of what would normally be expected. The branch has implemented a limit of 50 guests at a time and so far that has not been reached. Staff has begun to use Library IQ, a software service that creates statistics on how collections are being used and helps purchase materials at discount rates. The public has responded well to a "Binge Reading" display of book series for adults and for children and the "Dig Deeper" summer-reading program. There are two staff vacancies to fill.

Public hours remain somewhat limited, but the staff needs the extra time to get work done without volunteers. Because of the limited services provided – check out and return of books only - the library is currently classified as "retail" and so can stay open as long as state guidelines allow retail businesses to be open.

Library Advisory Board: no report.

Little Free Libraries: Elizabeth Bergthold reported that the Enterprise-Record article on the lack of children's books in the LFL's got some response. She is about to pick up 104 children's books from a school librarian in Oroville. A gentleman named Gordon donated 2 boxes and several bags of books, but only one children's book. The new LFL at the Dorothy Johnson Center is up and full of books. She also reported on a decrease in vandalism.

Newsletter: After discussion it was agreed to defer the next print edition of the newsletter until further developments, since there are no events and little news to report. A postcard re: the library reopening was sent out a few days ago.

Ongoing and New Business

Library Hours Sign: Janae reported that lights have been purchased and the bid process on installation is complete. She does not know when this will happen, but hopes it will be "sooner rather than later."

Enhanced PR for Butte County Library: A marketing company in Chico has submitted a bid, no further updates.

New Board Member Nominations: Nancy will ask Maureen Jeffers for ideas.

Officer Turnover: Brenda volunteered to take over the monthly email updates and volunteer recognition duties (when again relevant) formerly handled by Marian Milling.

Gifts for Marian and Ann: After discussion, the board voted to make \$250 donations in honor of each of them: to Friends of Bidwell Park for Marian and to the Native Plants Society for Ann. (Herritt, Crotts, amendment accepted by Herritt, approved.) Nancy agreed to write cover letters for the checks.

Blue Sky Wishes: Janae mentioned a new location for the Maker Lab and lowering shelves in adult section. Also discussed: a bookstore, a small meeting room, portable meeting room.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30.

The next meeting is Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 6:30 pm via Zoom (planned).