

Chico Friends of the Butte County Library, aka. Chico Friends of the Library, CFOL

Minutes of Board Meeting January 17, 2023

Present: Elizabeth Bergthold, Merle Burbridge, Brenda Crotts, Linda Elliott, Diane Friedman, Keith Herritt, Nancy Leek, Satsie Veith

Absent: Margaret Bomberg

Staff: Cynthia Pustejovsky, Chico Branch Librarian, Misty Wright, Assistant Library Director

Guests: Elaine Gray, Jennifer Ellingson, Peggy Evenson

Brenda Crotts called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

Minutes: The minutes of the November 15, 2022, meeting were approved. (Herritt, Leek, approved.)

Reports

Treasurer: The board reviewed reports for the current month as presented by Treasurer Diane Friedman. CFOL has approximately \$62,000 less than at this time last year, mostly due to expenditures.

Book Sale: Nancy Leek reported that December book sale revenue totaled \$4779 and the 2022 calendar year was just over \$60,000. She reported a request from Fairview High School for books to help them start up a library. After discussion, the board agreed that Nancy can select donated books for the school. There was discussion of how to make donated books available to all schools.

Little Free Libraries: Elizabeth Bergthold reported that the LFLs are well-stocked by stewards.

Membership: Merle Burbridge reports concern of many patrons about the new cuts in library hours; she has written a piece for the newsletter suggesting that people contact the Board of Supervisors.

Newsletter: Keith Herritt reported that Creative Compositions will both print and mail at least the next newsletter.

Chico Branch Teen Scholarship Grant: Misty Wright explained that the library has obtained a \$100,000 grant to fund teen interns to help develop Maker Space programs. However, Butte County is not prepared to make the payments directly to the interns. The library is requesting that CFOL pay the interns and invoice the library for reimbursement, which the County would then pay. The library plans to recruit, over the space of about a year, four different groups of five interns, who would each work 12 weeks. Each intern would be paid \$500 at the beginning, middle, and end of their internship. If CFOL issued checks for each payment, the total expenditure would be \$30,000. After discussion, the board decided to delay a decision in order to get more information about how to avoid tax issues, etc. Also, Misty will find out if CFOL could invoice the library for the full \$30,000 at one time and so receive it in one payment.

“Sleeping with Strangers” Author: Brenda Crock advised the Board that Kathryn Reed, who has shown interest in doing a book presentation hosted by CFOL, has done an interview with for the NSPR show “Nancy’s Bookshelf.” She encouraged board members to listen to the podcast on the show’s website and let her know if they think the author would be a good choice for either a book presentation at the library or the CFOL Annual Meeting in May.

Librarian’s Report: Cynthia Pustejovsky asked the Board for allocations for several library programs: the Board approved \$2000 for summer reading programs (Friedman, Burbridge, approved) and \$1500 for a sci-fi/fantasy book club (Friedman, Elliott, approved). It was decided the current crafts budget of \$300 per month

will be sufficient to cover Maker Space programs. The Board also agreed to lend its name as host of a Chico Library program on Holocaust Remembrance Day, January 29, at 2 PM, featuring a discussion of *The Book Smugglers* by David E. Fishman.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be on February 21, 2023.