

Friends of the Lacey Library (FoLL)

Board Meeting Minutes, January 8, 2025

Call to Order: John Grausam, President

Approval of Nov. 13, 2024 Minutes: Approved with correction in VP report. Changed “decided” to “suggested” about using 1st. Saturday every month as alternate large donation collection time.

Members Present: Darcy Perry, Carrie Martin, Marian Lemon, Sally Fitzgerald, Melanie Jenner, Dennis Powell, Becky Russell, Larry Russell, Rob Conor, John Grausam, Gwen Culp, Blake Bresnahan and Jane Collins. Guest: Katie Campbell

Library Manager Report: Interim Manager Blake Bresnahan reported that the new librarian, Kristina Hancock, would begin February 10. TRL has been planning for implementation of the new IMMS (Intelligent Material Management System) in 2024. It goes live on Jan. 13, 2025, and will automate many routine tasks. Blake reported a number of high-level personnel who are leaving TRL early this year, but which should not affect operations in Lacey. He also presented the October, November and December Library activity lists, many for which FoLL provides financial support.

Vice President/Book Place: Rob reported that Mary Gardner will be taking over Rob’s Book Place leadership role, as he transitions to Treasurer (see below). We took in \$324 for the previous week in BP sales. There was general praise for the new small, more maneuverable donation carts! We had approved \$1000. for the purchase of the two carts and the final cost was \$885. Volunteer Katie Campbell will be helping to monitor and empty the donation bins during the week as she uses the library frequently.

Treasurer: Larry presented the proposed 2025 Library budget. It was approved at \$26,650. This was an increase of about \$3,000 over 2024 due to TRL requiring more outreach programs from each library, and overall increased costs for everything. It was voted upon and approved. Next, the 2025 FoLL budget was presented at \$30,435. Projected “Donations received” amount was decreased to \$8,000 from \$10,000, after discussion. 1.8% of budget goes to Operating Expenses. Budget was voted upon and approved. Larry noted that the Book Place is bringing in more money than the Book Sales. We took in \$45,533.42, total in 2024.

Publicity: Gwen presented a draft of the updated FoLL Brochure. It was decided that we no longer will provide a Spanish version. She will finalize Brochure and send out electronically for approval.

Membership: Marian will cull the membership list of those names who haven’t attended a book sale or other activity since 2021.

Hawks Prairie: Mary introduced Sally Fitzgerald and Melanie Jenner who will take over Hawks Prairie oversight duties. It was clarified that HP is no longer called the “Annex” but is a full-fledged library within TRL. A new Hawks Prairie Library branch is being included in the building of the Young Children/Family Center (YCFC) in the of Marvin Way and Steilacoom, by the City of Lacey/YMCA/North Thurston Schools, which is due to open in 2027.

Books for Babies: Becky reported that she had \$283 left unspent from 2024, along with the \$1,500 allocated for 2025 The remodel where the books are stored is completed, so she will soon order books to deliver to Thurston County Health Dept.

Internet Sales: After several years of no activity, and the difficulty of selling them online ourselves, it was decided that John G. will ask volunteer Tom Kane if he would be willing to sell the books for us for a percentage of the sale price. Current inventory would be turned over to him.

Website/Mailchimp: Dennis will update website with 2025 Sale Dates and Officers.

Book Sales/Book Sorts: It was decided to use the last of our green FoLL cloth bags to sell “\$10 Bag of Books” at the Feb. Book Sale. That should use up the remaining inventory. We will not re-order book bags at this time.

New Business:

- Election of Vice President: Carrie Martin was nominated by Rob Conor and approved as new Vice Pres.
- Election of Treasurer: Rob Conor was nominated by Larry Russell and approved as new Treasurer.
- Jane Collins did a quick recap of the Thank You to Community efforts. Committee will meet to finalize and present to Board via e-mail. Expected to send out notice by end of January, 2025.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:pm

Respectfully submitted:

Jane Collins, Secretary, Friends of the Lacey Library.