

## **Friends of the Lacey Library (FoLL)**

### **Board Minutes, Nov. 12, 2025**

**Call to Order:** Interim President, Carrie Martin. (**Note:** President John Grausam officially resigned his duties effective November 4, 2026. See minutes of November 7, 2026, special board meeting. Vice President Carrie Marin will fill the role of President until elections scheduled for January 2026.)

**Members Present:** Darcy Perry; Melanie Jenner; Mary Gardner; Gwen Culp; Loretta Lindstad; Sally Fitzgerald; Carrie Martin; Kristina Hancock; Becky Russell; Larry Russell; Dennis Powell; Marian Lemon; Rob Connor; Jane Collins.

**Approval of Minutes:** Approved Minutes from Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Library Manager Report:** Kristina reported that they will be hiring another Library Supervisor in the coming weeks. Kristina also verified the quantity of materials used at both Lacey and HP were greater than previously reported. The Lacey library will be closed from Nov. 24 to Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, for Bathroom upgrades. This will impact our Dec. Booksale, which has been rescheduled for Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>, one day only. No Members only sale.

**Treasurer:** Rob presented a proposed FoLL Budget for **2026** using income/expenditure figures from Jan. to August 2025, due to the expected library closure next fall. Several suggestions were made: Increase expected donations to \$4,000.; add a line under Operating Expenses for Librarian Appreciation for \$750.00. which will be distributed in the form of gift cards in April. Rob also shared that a credit/debit card reader (Square) has been purchased to use at Book Sales. The buyer's card information and our banking information is automatically encrypted for safety. In addition, a QR code will be posted at each in-store payment site (Book Place in Lacey and Hawks Prairie) for in-person sales thru PayPal, if desired.

#### **New Business:**

- In view of upcoming FoLL elections in January, there was a proposal to allow for Co-Presidents, which would mean no Vice Pres. Officer. Discussion followed. A proposal passed to add this to By-Laws at the January meeting.
- A final discussion was held to clarify the number of books a volunteer could borrow or buy on a day they are working. The rule will continue to follow the "Standing Rules of the Friends of the Lacey Timberland Library, as revised January 1, 2024." Per Section 5, Volunteer Ethics: "Volunteers who help with presorting the donated books and set up for the book sale may purchase or borrow only four books on the day they volunteer."
- A **huge thank you** to the team that assembled the Lobby window for Nov. showcasing the history of the Friends of the Lacey Library, and how we currently contribute to and support the library. Thanks, Darcy, Rob, and Gwen!

**Reports: Book Sales/Sorts:** Sally reported on some "back-room chaos" during the last sale, due to "booksellers" depositing large boxes of books they had selected on the floor, together with one Sale cart made the back room very difficult to navigate. In the future, NO shopper boxes will be allowed in back room during

the sale (**Note:** Subsequent to this meeting, the Dec. Book Sale was cancelled due to Library closure for bathroom remodel).

**Publicity:** Gwen reported the Sale poster for the Dec. Book Sale was ready for distribution. She also commented on the "Window" in the Lacey lobby that highlighted the history of the Friends. One item, a "2024 By the Numbers" poster she said she hoped that we could update every year.

**Membership:** Marian reported that she and Dennis are "cleaning up" the membership rolls of inactive persons. We received 17 new memberships in July/Aug.; and 14 new and 6 renewals in Sept/Oct. Current membership stands at 507 members.

**Book Place:** Mary reports that sales remain strong at the Book Place. She has begun displaying Holiday books and DVD's. She also mentioned that the Cookbook Project at Salish Middle School has informed her they now have 175 cookbooks to share with students.

**Hawks Prairie:** Melanie reports they have good volunteers and sales remain steady. Book sets sell well there.

**Website/Mailchimp:** Dennis notes articles appearing on the website highlighting the Hawks Prairie branch, and another detailing our FoLL Internet Sales on E-Bay. He and Marian continue to purge Mailchimp/Membership records to eliminate out-of date entries.

**Books for Babies:** Becky reported that **First Books**, a program to secure books at low cost, received a large donation from Build-A-Bear Foundation which allowed her to secure an order of additional books at a good discount and receive a boxload of 48 NEW full-size Bears which we then donated to Thurston County Nurse-Family Partnership Program. She had also recently ordered 88 books for the program, totaling \$252.58.

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Next Meeting: January 14, 2026**

Respectfully submitted:

Jane Collins, Secretary