

Friends of the Lacey Timberland Library
Annual Membership and Board Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2026

Call to Order: Carrie Martin, Interim President, called meeting to order at 1:34 pm.

Board Members Present: Becky Russell, Larry Russell, Rob Conor, Carrie Martin, Sally Fitzgerald, Marian Lemon, Dennis Powell, Darcy Perry, Mary Gardner, Gwen Culp, and Jane Collins.

Guests: Kristina Hancock, Jerry Elliott, Rinae Perron, Peg Solveson, Loretta Linstad, Stephanie Abelman, Mary Kanikeberg, Karen Halpern, and Cathy McAvoy.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes for November 12, 2025 were approved. There was discussion about including major events that happen outside of the meeting in the minutes.

Lacey Library Manager: Kristina reported that **Lacey Loves to Read** author, Renee Watson, will speak at a public event on February 12 from 6-7 pm at NTPS Koval Center. She shared that Mychal Threets, host of **Reading Rainbow**, visited the Lacey Library to meet with 3-year-old YouTube creator, Workman MJ. There was a slight decrease in physical check-outs in Nov/Dec 2025, due to the 16-day closure for the bathroom remodel. The larger remodel project is expected to begin in September 2026, and possibly last 6 months. She discussed the library's budget request of \$25,150 to the FOLL and distributed the TRL Friends of the Library Policy and TRL Gift Policy for our review. There was discussion of increasing the budget for BookPage to buy additional copies. Kristina will investigate.

Treasurer: Rob presented the FOLL November and December financial reports and the proposed 2026 FOLL Budget. Estimated 2026 revenue is \$33,600; estimated expense is \$5,590. He presented the proposed 2026 FOLL Library Operations Budget of \$25,150 which is approximately \$1,500 less than 2025 due to the expected remodel closure. Both budgets were approved. The estimated 2026 donation to the library is \$25,150.

New Business:

- **By-Laws changes:** A proposal was presented to amend the bylaws to allow for Co-presidents. The proposed amendment passed:
 - *Article V – Board of Directors.*
 - *Section 2. add: Two persons may serve in a cooperative capacity for President as Co-Presidents. References to President in the document also apply to co-Presidents. A Vice President is not necessary when two persons agree to serve as co-Presidents. Each person serving in a cooperative capacity for any office is allowed one vote for the purposes of Board decisions.*
 - *Section 3 add: Individually Co-Presidents shall be elected in alternate years*
- **Election of Co-Presidents:** Carrie Martin and Sally Fitzgerald were elected. Carrie will serve one year, Sally will serve two years.
- **Election of Secretary:** Gwen Culp was elected Secretary for a two-year term.
- **Historian:** Larry Russell volunteered to serve as Historian.

Reports:

- **Book Sales/Book Sorts:** We will begin using Square for credit/debit card sales at the February 6-7 book sale. Rob will train cashiers to use Square prior to the sale. For sales under \$5, the cashier will ask if the buyer would pay a \$.50 service fee. The fee will not be charged automatically. We will advertise the availability of credit/debit card payments for the next book sale on April 3-4. Sally will monitor the back room for over-crowding. Rob noted book sales totaled \$15,000 from the five book sales in 2025 (Dec. book sale was canceled) and \$17,000 in Book Place sales. Hawks Prairie book sales totaled \$2,700 for the year.
- **Publicity:** Gwen presented two versions of the February book sale flyer.
- **Membership:** Marian noted that there will be a large number of renewals at the February sale.
- **Book Place:** Mary stated that 2025 sales for the Book Place were over \$17,000. She thanked the volunteers who staff the Book Place 6 days a week. She noted that over 275 kids participated in the Cook 2 Connect program at Salish Middle School. Mary estimated we donated 50 cookbooks.
- **Hawks Prairie:** Sally reported that the book sale shelves at Hawks Prairie are now stocked daily thanks to our volunteers. Hawks Prairie will remain open during the Lacey remodel closure, so we will need to have enough books stored to restock the sale shelves. There was discussion about alternate storage space if we don't have access to our current storage locations.
- **Books for Babies:** Becky reported she was able to purchase additional books at a 50% discount during December after Board approval. She purchased a number of Spanish Language books. All of these books are donated to Thurston County Nurse/Family Partnership Program.
- **Website/Mailchimp:** Dennis reported that the notice for the last book sale was emailed to 344 addresses on the Mailchimp list; 252 people opened it. Recent additions to the FOLL website: a Donation button which links to our PayPal Giving Fund, Hawks Prairie Library photos, and a link to our E-Bay online book sales.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:21pm.

Next Board Meeting is March 10, 2026 at 12:30pm