Friends of the Lacey Library

Board Meeting Minutes May 14, 2025

Call to Order: President John Grausam called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm

Attending: Rob Conor, Sally Fitzgerald, Dennis Powell, Loretta Linstad, Darcy Perry, Melanie Jenner; Gwen Culp; Mary Gardner, Kristina Hancock, Larry Russell, John Grausam, Marian Lemon, and Jane Collins.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the March 12, 2025 meeting were approved with the following corrections: Correction to spelling of Tom Kane's name; Added a notation regarding 2025 General Meeting.

Library Manager: Kristina presented the report from March/April. Highlights regarding a presentation by Thurston County to connect with residents getting discounted heat pump and installations, 47 attended. Also, PSE had a pop-up event where they helped residents with various issues, with strong attendance. Nicole Page with be new interim Library Supervisor. She and Kristina will share responsibility for opening library duties. Tumwater will reopen June 28. All TRL libraries have new Checkout Machines. TRL will participate in Lacey PolyFest and Capitol City Pride parade. Library usage increased over 2024 by almost 17% physical items. Hawks Prairie activity increased almost 20% over last year in physical items, but by 60% in digital items! Children's items account for approx. 16% of checkouts. The library remodel is now scheduled to begin in Jan. 2026 and could last 6 months! Friends should have access to the back shed.

Treasurer: Rob presented information about FoLL Internet Sales. Since the end of April, we have earned $390.35 as our portion of the Internet Sales, run by Tom Kane. We receive 50% of the sale price. Tom takes shipping and E-bay costs out of his half. Rob reported that at the end of April, we were more than half way to meeting our earnings projections for the year with Sales, Book Place, Memberships and CD interest increasing over last year.

Book Sales/Sorts: Due to scheduling conflicts on Monday morning, the June Booksale will close early at 4:00pm on Saturday, and takedown will last from 4:00-6:00pm to get most of the boxing and transport finished. There will be an abbreviated Sort on Monday, ending at 9:00am. At Fri. Book Sale (members only) we will try having a separate cashier table for book sellers only. We will also procure extra boxes (for sale) for them to haul books out. We have a buyer for the large collection of Stephen King books. The collection will be valued and saved for buyer. Discussion was held about policy for Sort volunteers "borrowing and buying" books during sort. We clarified that the policy will read: Volunteers may **borrow** (to be returned at some point) up to 4 books; and my **purchase** up to 10 books during Sort.

Publicity: Gwen presented the proposed June Sale poster. It was decided reference to the Stephen King books will be removed and substituted with Sheet Music and Music books. She has updated the brochure and added our QR codes and will update the posters in the Book Place with correct QR codes.

Membership: Marian reported that in last two months we have had 14 new memberships, and 19 renewals.

Book Place: Mary commented on the growth in Sales in the last 6 months. She is looking for new volunteers for several of the weekday Book Place shifts. She also mentioned that boxes from the shed need to be moved

to back room. In reference to the Annual Volunteer Picnic, Mary suggested replacing the BBQ hamburgers and hot dogs with sandwich platters from Meconi's. It was discussed and agreed upon.

Hawks Prairie: It was announced that HP had achieved their monetary goal in sales for the year! Also, thanks to the great support from the library staff at HP who have agreed to fill in our empty sale shelves when needed.

Books for Babies: As reported by Larry, Becky recently purchased 127 books for $300 (with $1200. remaining in budget). He also shared two really nice Thank You notes regarding the program and its impact.

Website/Mailchimp: Dennis reported that in the recent month the website had 277 visitors to our website. Of the most recent notice sent to membership, 227 of 399 e-mails were opened. He and Marian will continue to clean up membership and mailing lists. The note about FoLL Bookbags will be removed from website as we no longer will stock them.

New Business:

Surplus Books: John presented the problem of the large number of good condition books that we send to Value Village following a book sale. We need to reach out to other Friends groups and other community organizations to see if we can find partners who could use our excess books. A committee was formed with Mary, Melanie, Gwen, Sally and Becky to pursue this goal. They will communicate with other Friends groups to assess interest. We know that Tenino is not holding Book Sales, just participating in community events. Yelm is interested and has storage. North Thurston need free books for students.

Lacey Library display window is lobby

Next Board Meeting and Annual Volunteer Picnic -July 9, 2025. Beachcrest Neighborhood location.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Collins, Secretary