

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES, KONA

F.O.L.K. BOARD MEETING MINUTES - January 24, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 9:09 by President Pamela Wang. Attending were Shirley David, Bev Stehley, Suzanne Dmytrenko, Lynn Waterhouse, Arne Werchick, Barbara Isley, Joyce Kimball, Ken Guerra, and Debra Dolsberry. Librarians Denise Stromberg and Shelly Brown were also present. All Board members present having read the draft minutes by e-mail, reading of the minutes was waived and minutes of the December 20, 2016, were approved. MSA

Head Librarian Denise Stromberg displayed the book plates used to personalize books to recognize FOLK members who donate \$50 or more for membership; Denise selects the books she considers most appropriate to each donor. She also showed a possible book bag which would be less expensive than those supplied in the past.

Barbara Isley gives the treasurer report. Assets at the end of December are \$53,414.48 which includes an additional check from the Nelsons. The balance in the Ameritrade account at the end of December was \$34,751; today's balance is \$35,122. Expenses should decline because of fewer gift cards and fewer newspaper ads for 2017. Treasurer's report accepted. MSA

Shirley David displays the 2016 history book of newsletters and other materials collected during the year. Facebook report circulated by e-mail earlier. Events *boosted* on Facebook by paying additional fees reached more people. Total expenditures for Facebook 2016 were \$727. We will revisit the question of whether "boosting" significantly increases participation.

President Wang reports that the Friends of the Libraries affiliates are meeting in Hilo February 8, and FOLK should send two people

Programs Chair Suzanne Dmytrenko reports receiving a donation check from Kona Coast Vacations. Upcoming scheduled programs: January 31 the Ohrlando concert; February 28 Kuulei Keakealani talk; January 28 on fire ants, a Community Seed Library program. Natalie Guerin who has steered the CSL program since its inception reports by e-mail that she is moving to Israel; Kipapa has been informed and is looking for someone to step into her place.

Science Programs Chair Lynn Waterhouse reports that the coqui frog program was also held in Kealakekua. She has booked a Keck observatory program for May and is working on a marine biology program. She hopes to find a good speaker on the

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subject of local birds, in particular hoping to revive the corvids/crow program. Hawaii is on map of locations with the fastest rate of bird extinction.

Bev Stehley reports that we need to order books for the book club. Today's book is "The Three-Year Swim Club", next month "The Sympathizer". Attendance is holding steady at 10 to 20, depending on time of year. One person asked about possibility of an evening club which may present logistic problems due to library closing at 7:00 p.m., and before that time volunteers would have to put everything away. She notes that the Kona Stories book club expects participants to buy the books, which we provide. Book club expenses for last year were \$308 plus \$400 with Amazon points; donations totaled \$126. "FOLK will buy and dedicate a copy of "Where the Wild Things Are" to honor Cheryl King who passed away in December, having been of great service to FOLK and the library.

Joyce Kimball reports that FOLK web page redesign is underway and is soliciting, taking input. The calendar will be *clickable*. She has confirmed that the \$50 bookplate offer is still on membership applications.

Ken Guera reports on the January book sale which raised \$1300. Volunteer response was good and well spread out over the course of the day, including last shift. Membership produced 11 renewals, 11 new members -- a record for a book sales day. Mardee was at the pay desk polling visitors: most come by word of mouth, or are regulars who know the book sale calendar, or those who see signs and come as walk-bys; nothing reported from Facebook, and little result from newspaper. Two fliers are circulated: how to sign up with Amazon "Smile" and (by Denise Stromberg) explaining what we accept as donations. There is some resistance to Smile voiced by seniors who say they do not shop on-line. Smile fliers will be available on the give-away table inside. Re volunteer rewards, we used to give out gift cards both to students and adults; this stopped in January but Ken told students that they should be sure to record their hours worked for credit for the student program. Those with the most hours at end of term will get gift cards or some recognition; Ken will select the top five to be recipients and decide the amount of an award. The same could be done for adult volunteers and will plan to discuss this at the February Board meeting. Perhaps we should create a format to recognize a "volunteer of the year" at Annual Meetings.

Denise Stromberg is pleased to report that next month is the 25th anniversary of the Kona library building. A one week celebration is planned. Kipapa requests \$100 honorarium for an Aloha Teen Theatre Performance April 4 at the library. The next CSL program is on fire ants; there is no CSL February program; in March Marcy Montgomery is speaking about pollination.

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Shelly Brown reports that the Kealakekua branch kimchee program needs \$100 this weekend; \$600 is needed for Amazon book replacement items that cannot be ordered through state ordering systems (such as classics or different formats than library provides). Butch Porter was not compensated for his Kealakekua appearance, so additional \$100 is needed. Administration has authorized her to proceed with a survey how to allocate eight open hours per week; she intends to give three options for public input and will run the survey for month of February.

Debra Dolsberry will attend the *Big Friends* meeting 0208 with President Wang.

Barbara Isley informs the Board that the Jeff and Mary Nelson Foundation has made \$31,000 in donations since March 2009. They would appreciate some acknowledgment beyond just the customary thank you letter. Barbara contacted Kona engravers and is suggesting a 9x12 plaque in Hawaiian wood with engraving onto the wood (not a metal plate), with the FOLK logo and "with grateful appreciation" etc. Denise will find appropriate wall space. Cost will be \$80-120 depending on type of wood. Lynn Waterhouse suggests we find if could have them present during one of the Board meetings to do an unveiling. MSA.

Barbara Isley advises that the investment committee (President Wang, Joyce Kimball and Debra Dolsberry) is to meet Friday the 27th and prepare the audit for 2016.

Suzanne Dmytrenko will be absent from February Board meeting; Lynn Waterhouse will be absent in March.

Adjourned 10:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted
ARNE WERCHICK
Secretary