

# FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES, KONA

## F.O.L.K. BOARD MEETING MINUTES - March 21, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 by President Pamela Wang. Attending were Bev Stehley, Barbara Isley, Joyce Kimball, Ken Guerra, Mardee Richardson, Debra Dolsberry, Shirley David, Suzanne Dmytrenko, Arne Werchick, and Dianna Duff, new chair of the Community Seed Library (CSL). Librarians Denise Stromberg and Shelly Brown were also present. It was noted there were numerous errors in the minutes of the February 21, 2017, meeting -- both in content and format -- and approval has been tabled to the April meeting subject to revision and re-circulation of the minutes.

Dianna Duff who replaces Natalie Guerin as chair of the CSL is introduced. She has lived in Kona almost 30 years. In the past she owned a coffee farm in Honaunau, and managed the Tropical Edibles & Fruit Nursery; she has written a column on gardening for West Hawaii Today for 15 years.

Barbara Isley gives the treasurer report. Assets at the end of February are \$54,387.21. The P&L statement reflects \$712 dividends from Ameritrade transferred back to savings. Second half excise tax has been paid. There was a refund for over-payment in printing costs. John Keawe, as he always generously does, rebated a portion of the proceeds from the sale of his CDs, this time \$155. President Wang reports receiving a letter from the OB department at Kona Community Hospital thanking F.O.L.K. for the donation of 135 Books for Babies. Costs will be reported next month. A donation was received of a 1938 book on surfing with tapa cloth cover; Amazon has two similar for sale at \$12,000 and \$5,000. Barbara has posted the donated book on Amazon for \$2750, and it has been listed for a week. Ameritrade balance \$35,235.82 as of the end of February. Treasurer's report accepted. MSA

Shirley David reports scholarship information is now available on the website and will be in next newsletter. Two two thousand dollar scholarships are to be offered whether or not F.O.L.K. funds are supplemented by anonymous donation as in the past. MSA Deadline for applications is the end of May. Jerry Anderson, high school librarian, will be on committee; Debra Dolsberry will also serve on the committee. MSA. The Facebook report was sent yesterday by email to the Board. Suzanne Dmytrenko reports one "younger" person reported hearing of a program through Facebook. Jill Wagner is managing CSL Facebook page. Shirley has been boosting CSL programs if she receives notices from CSL.

Suzanne Dmytrenko reports the last two programs were very successful: February

28: Hawaiian talk story by Ku'ulei Keakealani about Big Island Hawaiian families and origin of various place names. March 14: History of Amy B.H. Greenwell and the Ethnobotanical Gardens. Some members of the Greenwell family also attended. The fate of the gardens still uncertain. Because we are hosting events with historical significance like the two above, Suzanne recommends we get video archives of oral history programs; she will contact the local access cable tv station. Pamela Wang suggests contacting Joy Holland, Director of the Kona Historical Society. March 17 Kelly Dunn showed his photographs of his "painted" eucalyptus trees found on the island. April 18 program is on the history of Peace Corps training on the Big Island. April 22 is a program on solar panels. Also on April 22 at 10:00 a.m. there is a CSL program on bees. Catherine Wiese wants to talk about corals in April. Saturday April 29 is available at 3:30; Suzanne will contact her and book. For May she has booked musician Kekilani Lindsey -- May 9 5:30-6:30. In June Tricia's Energy Garden talk on numerology. She is trying to book Boyd Bond for September or October, an historian who has presented at the Lyman Museum and is very knowledgeable about the Big Island. In November she plans a program with John Roth discussing proactive planning for incapacity. Nothing planned for August because usually a slow month. Joyce Kimball will send a "host guide" prepared by Bev Stehley to be used when introducing presenters and programs to any Board member who didn't already receive a copy.

Ken Guerra reports on the Book Club. Today's book is "Euphoria" by Lily King about New Guinea anthropologists in the 1930s. Next month is local author Katherine Dugan. Her books at the library checkout desk are readers' proofs and cannot be sold.

Joyce Kimball reports on F.O.L.K. publicity. Our web site has been extensively revised. Calendars are updated. Hawaii Public Radio has been very good about mentioning programs, and people attending programs report hearing information on the radio. Also West Hawaii Today public service announcements are bringing in attendees.

Ken Guerra now reports on Ways & Means. The March book sale produced \$1027 even though competing with Brew Fest the same day. Comparing records for last year, first quarter versus this year, shows we were within about \$50 range. Next two months he expect less income. Fewer students helping with the last book sale because of SATs and "grad night", plus volunteering at various school-related fund raisers. We are competing with school prom in April. There has been good adult volunteer turnout. Most book sale customers come because of street signs; a majority of attendees are regulars who know when the sales take place. Amazon "smile" flier will be inserted in a book for each customer. For April they plan to offer a "fill a book bag with books for \$10", also will focus on National Library Week which is in April. Denise suggests selling or giving away the few remaining F.O.L.K. T-shirts, all children's or odd sizes. Volunteers will give them to families who come through the check-out line with children. Ken also needs someone to be responsible for

getting books to the Kealakekua branch for book sales. Their pit crew days changed and conflict with Ken's availability, so Ken needs someone to take over that responsibility. Shelly Brown will transport books in both directions monthly in conjunction with attending F.O.L.K. meetings but will need to coordinate dates with people here; she will work with Ken to coordinate. Lobby sales here were \$631; \$47 from Kealakekua. The importance of pit crew volunteer hours and the need to recruit new volunteers was discussed. The job requires physical exertion. Your undersigned secretary is to draft a poster board sign to be used to recruit pit crew volunteers and forward to Mardee Richardson for use at book sales to see if we can recruit new volunteers this way. A reminder: volunteers should wear a volunteers lanyard while volunteering at the library. Ken did look into the cost of new lobby furniture to display books; a good choice is sold for \$550 but will cost an equal amount for shipping; it was suggested we find local carpenter to build something similar. The idea is to keep the display case currently in the lobby and replace the lower book shelf with a new display case. Lastly, coffee table books are now generally priced at \$10 now and are selling well.

Debra Dolsberry tried without success to contact Associa Hawaii to see if there was any interest in receiving books to place in condo complexes for use of residents and visitors. She will explore alternate sources to take our disposable stock, looking for shelf space in a public lobby or rec room. She is also looking to post notices of book sales.

Mardee Richardson reports we have 390 F.O.L.K. members on the roster, 296 in good standing; 7 new members joined at the February book sale. She has sent 25 renewal post cards, with 11 responses. There were 20 renewals in February, 10 at the book sale, and two of which were \$50 renewals. Membership donations of \$50 and larger are noted by placement of book plates in books selected from the Nelson collection which also contain book plates noting the Nelson contribution. President Wang and Secretary Werchick are to coordinate a system for keeping a record of books into which membership book plates are inserted. The very nice wood plaque honoring the Jeffrey and Mary Nelson Foundation for their generous ongoing support will be displayed in a prominent place in the library.

Denise Stromberg reports, per children's librarian Jen Losario, that she will prepare a spring program budget, summer program budget and fall budget. Summer will include the summer reading program. For the spring budget to June she asks \$200 for children's programs and related expenses. Expenditures authorized up to \$200, to be supported by receipts, MSA. May 6 is free comic book day per Kipapa; this will involve a costume contest with a \$25 Regal theater gift card as a prize. \$50 MSA. For the summer reading program Kipapa requests \$400 incentives, decorations, presenter fee. Up to \$400, supported by receipts. MSA. Build a Better World Summer Reading Program requests \$300 for reading incentives, shipping, adult crafts. Up to \$300 MSA. For National Library Week, we are one of 10 libraries fortunate to get Patrick Ball at no cost to F.O.L.K., Friends of Libraries,

Hawaii (FLH) will pay his fees; he is a Celtic story teller and harpist; we are still negotiating an April date. Thursday, April 13, at 4:00 pm, there will be a Financial Education Workshop limited to 25 participants.

Shelly Brown reports the Kealahou branch finally has staffing stability; a library assistant III was recently hired. The staff hour survey was conducted February 1-28 yielding 200 responses. Overall 8% voted to keep the same schedule; 55% supported "option B" Monday to Friday adding 10 more hours; 36% supported a Tuesday to Saturday schedule. Historically there is much request for Saturday opening but very small utilization when actually open on Saturday. People did ask for more morning hours, more 7:00 pm closing days rather than 6:00 pm. Shelly notes next month is time for carpet cleaning which last year was about \$700; she will get three quotes. She will also ask if the janitors are interested in doing the job on their day off on a time-and-a-half basis. Summer Reading Program requests incentives and sponsor and crafts up to \$500 to be supported with receipts. MSA

Suzanne Dmytrenko will get more details on any possibility of a golf fund raiser.

Bev Stehley requests funding for a Quick Books upgrade, up to \$300 to get the cloud version. MSA

Joyce Kimball will be away until October. President Wang and Shirley David. will be absent next month. Deb Dolsberry may be gone also. Suzanne Dmytrenko will chair the April meeting.

Adjourned 11:00 a.m. Next meeting April 18 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted  
ARNE WERCHICK  
Secretary