

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES, KONA

F.O.L.K. BOARD MEETING MINUTES - August 15, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 by President Pamela Wang. Attending were Board members Suzanne Dmytrenko, Shirley David, Barbara Isley, Bev Stehley, Mardee Richardson, Ken Guerra, Lynn Waterhouse and Arne Werchick. Librarians Shelly Brown and Kipapa Kahelahela, sitting in for Denise Stromberg, also attended.

The minutes of the July 18, 2017, meeting were approved. MSA

Barbara Isley gives the treasurer report. Several hundred dollars have been received from lifetime sustaining members. Assets at the end of February are \$56,304.50; the Ameritrade account stands just under \$37,000. Lobby sales were \$1209 for July; \$121 last month at Kealahakua, which also was better than usual. Barbara will be gone 3-4 weeks in December-January and Ken Guerra will be unavailable as well, so Barbara needs a volunteer to collect funds at the library weekly and make the deposits. This involves counting the cash from lobby sales and checks received. Mardee Richardson will assist. Treasurer's report accepted. MSA Barbara is putting together an application for a grant from F.L.H. (Friends of the Libraries, Hawaii, a.k.a. "Big Friends") for the Friendly Bus. Since teens have never been included in Friendly Bus events before, the question was considered whether efforts should be made to include that age/grade group. Kipapa reports that he has invited teachers of teen students to visit; he takes a letter to the schools telling teens the services he offers. Coordination with teens is more difficult because after home room, they generally are not together as a group throughout the day. Currently the Friendly Bus is offered for second grade, combined with third grade if class sizes are really small for a particular school. The cost of the Friendly Bus has doubled since the program started and is now \$395 per event. Twelve schools have been included. Last year F.O.L.K. spent about \$2000 on the Friendly Bu program with no grant money received for the program. Barbara is budgeting \$2400 for the program for the coming year. Kipapa thinks rather than for teens, the program would work better for sixth or seventh grade but is best at the second/third grade level. Older students tend to visit the library for research projects and then leave. Barbara suggests offering the program to teachers at all grade level who want to bring their classes. Last year nineteen classes participated. The capacity of the bus capacity is about 40.

Shirley David reports re Facebook. The "Help Wanted" flyer for book sale volunteers was promoted at a cost of \$15 last month. Shirley was also notified that someone has hacked the F.O.L.K. credit card which is used for Facebook and charged \$3000 a flight to Ohio (no information was provided about where in the country the theft

occurred) so the card has been replaced by the issuer.

Suzanne Dmytrenko reports on programs. She is still working with Boyd Bond, local historian, to complete a flyer for his September 12, 5:30-6:30, program. She is waiting for State Librarian approval for Na Leo, the local access tv station to tape the presentation; Na Leo has not confirmed their availability yet. Andrea Pro was suggested as speaker on communication exercises and has been booked for November 14, 5:30-6:30. Suzanne is looking to book music programs for November and December.

Lynn Waterhouse reports she has a commitment for two speakers willing to do four talks per year on marine biology per year. She has another astronomer program projected for next spring.

Bev Stehley reports on the book club. Today the book is *Honor Killing* by David Stannard. Next month *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman. In September she will collect nominations for book club selections for next year. After meetings copies of the subject books are sold for \$1. Summer attendance averages about 10; winter 20. A new batch of books have been ordered for the Books for Babies program. Mardee works with the Kona Family Literacy and Interaction Program and has brought them on board with the Books for Babies program. They are purchasing 800 plastic bags for use with this program; the bags will be imprinted with Elks, F.O.L.K. and Kona Family Language and Interaction Program names. Mardee Richardson is developing a coupon to be included with Books on Babies bags offering a 20% discount at future F.O.L.K. book sales to encourage continued reading with baby.

President Wang notes regarding F.O.L.K. publicity that Joyce Kimball, even while away, has been working on keeping the F.O.L.K. calendar up to date.

Ken Guerra reports on Ways and Means. The August lanai book sale is coming up Saturday. He has no volunteers yet specifically for the closing shift, although a couple of regulars have signed on to volunteer for the entire day which would be 7 a.m. until closing. Apparently library volunteers may receive time credit towards court-ordered community service requirements; the undersigned has been directed to see how F.O.L.K. can officially be added to any public list of eligible court-sanctioned community service organizations. Opening and closing lanai book sales needs about 10-12 volunteers. Ken urges Board members to come on a Wednesday or Thursday morning to see how the Pit Crew operates. The new book display case being build for lobby sales is in progress. Stalwart former Board member Eleanor Pearson got yet another donation to support the book sale program, this time a generous \$100 gift card from Walmart. We presently have ten \$25 Target gift cards; six KTA \$25 cards; two \$25 cards from Costco. There was a discussion of corporate sponsorships and publicizing credit to business donors; no action taken. The discussion about appropriate recognition of student volunteers

with the most volunteer hours continues; no action taken. Ken will create a separate sign-in sheet for students and get contact information. No feedback has been received yet from schools about volunteers for the coming year. Ken has the school calendar for reference, showing school-related events that may impact availability of student volunteers to be consulted when selecting book sale dates. There have been no new volunteers for the Pit Crew yet. Ken will present plan for distribution of gift card awards at the September Board meeting.

Mardee Richardson reports on membership. She continues to seek more input about who volunteers regularly to add that information to the membership lists. There is no date certain for when Denise will return; currently she remains in a non-weight-bearing cast. Regarding the efforts to contact Lifetime member donations, she has received an additional \$485 in contributions; three this month wrote to thank her for re-establishing contact; two don't live on island any longer so those addresses have been deleted after their names on the membership lists. In all she has received lots of nice feedback. One member requested her donation go toward cost of the new lobby bookshelf to help generate income. Currently we have 399 listed members, 301 in good standing. Two new members joined in July; there were three renewals out of 20 postcards sent, one for \$100 and another for a two-year membership. She has been thinking of putting notice in the newsletter suggesting members consider giving a gift membership to a friend or colleague as a holiday gift and is requesting input on how to phrase such a suggestion for the newsletter.

Barbara Isley raises a matter as new business: Sack 'N Save is continuing the "Give Aloha" matching gift program. F.O.L.K. is one of the eligible organizations (Organization Code 78452). Donations up to \$249 per person made at any Foodland, Sack 'N Save or Foodland Farms checkout will be matched by Western Union Foundation up to a combined total of \$300,000 for all organizations.

Shelly Brown reports re the Kealakekua branch. She notes that letters regarding Saturday library hours and her response have been published in West Hawaii Today. Her offer to meet with letter writers making negative comments about the new library hours were not taken up by anyone. Attendance is up in new open hours. Her next project is to clear out basement clutter; the state library is helping with inventory control, and she will need a dumpster and community volunteers. She may be able to enlist the local Boy Scouts troop. She has scheduled a Blue Zone speaker on Aug 30th. Movie nights are still going on. Dr Renee Joy Dufault, local author, will discuss her book *Unsafe to Eat At Any Meal* in December.

Kipapa reports that CSL will present a program August 26th on drought tolerant landscaping. Library programs are scheduled for September 23rd and an October "anniversary bash". The new janitor is Carmen Silva; she is learning what needs to be taken care of with respect to programs. For any special program needs, Kipapa advises to leave a message with staff or a note in her message box. Teen reading

week is October 8th. He would like to order three new posters, one for teen week, costing about \$16 each plus \$11 shipping. One deals with fake news, others are to replace old existing posters. He requests authorization not to exceed \$125. MSA. Liz Poire is going to do a display for banned book week and request an appropriation not to exceed \$70. MSA. Bev reports that Jenn Losalio has spoken to the proposed muralists for the children's library; they are applying for a grant so it may be awhile before we have more information. Barbara feels this is a very tight space (about six feet) so it may not justify a major expense; lacking a grant for the mural, she suggests perhaps it would be better just to paint colorful walls and make a reading nook without a mural.

Ken Guerra will have foot surgery October 17 and will be non-weight-bearing for three months.

Next meetings are September 19th and October 17th at 9:00 a.m.. President Wang will be absent for September meeting. Lynn Waterhouse will be absent in September and November. Secretary Werchick will be absent in October. Meeting adjourned 10:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted
ARNE WERCHICK
Secretary