

F.O.L.K. ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES, JANUARY 14, 2014

The annual meeting of the Friends of the Library, Kona, held on the Kailua-Kona Public Library Lanai, was called to order by President Wang at 10:04 a.m.

MINUTES OF 2013 ANNUAL MEETING – MSA

An outline of the Minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting was read by President Wang to the assembled members and approved as read.

President Wang called members' attention to her message in The Orchid Newsletter, December 2013, (page 2) and reminded them that it can be accessed on the website: www.folkhawaii.com

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS – MSA

Officers and Board Members for 2014 are nominated as follows: President, Pamela Wang; Vice President, Marilyn Koschella; Secretary, Alice Facer; Treasurer, Barbara Isley; Co-Directors of Membership, Alice Goo and Eleanor Pearson; Directors of BBB, Shirley David; Ways and Means, Ken Guerra; Activities, Beverly Stehley; Publicity, Joyce Kimball; Education/Grants, Lynn Waterhouse; At Large/Tech Support, Ed Hickey. The position of Director of Programs is vacant.

WAYS AND MEANS – Ken Guerra

Using a flip chart, Ken showed by month the growth of revenues from Lobby and Lanai sales over the past seven years. Lobby sales show gradual growth year over year from \$6215 in 2007 to \$9904 in 2013. In 2012, sales were exceptionally high, more than \$15,000. The reason for the anomaly is unknown. (However, Bev Stehley pointed out a possible connection to Borders closing their Kona store in that year.) Higher priced books are selected to be sold in the Lobby.

Lanai revenues also showed steady growth from \$4647 in 2007 to \$6872 in 2009. Then, in 2010, the number of annual Lanai sales was increased from five to ten, and revenues grew accordingly from \$11,324 in 2010 to \$15,142 in 2013. Just since 2010, book sales have earned \$101,179 to support the libraries. Ken thanked the F.O.L.K. membership for their book donations and book purchases, Kona Bay Books for much of the inventory, and especially extended thanks to the dedicated volunteers for their long hours of behind-the-scenes work "in the pit" that make the sales possible. He invited anyone interested in volunteering to join their number.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Barbara Isley

Barbara also used a flip chart to show the year's breakdown of Sources of Income, i.e. book sales, investments, membership dues, grants, cash donations; the year's breakdown of Administrative Expenditures, i.e. website, excise taxes, programs and events, scholarships; and Expenditures for Library Assistance, maintenance (tree trimming, pest control, gardener), equipment and supplies, furnishings, programs, and library materials (books, Cds, DVDs, subscriptions). The total funds available as of December 31, \$43,404.28, reflect a 2013 net income of \$10,524.32.

ANNUAL ACTIVITIES BINDER – Marilyn Koschella

Marilyn displayed the binder that she had prepared for the meeting, and it was passed around among the members attending. The contents outline by month all of the year's activities/projects. In addition to each month's newsletter, the binder contained the West Hawaii Today article on the background of one of the F.O.L.K. scholarship recipients, Joy Holland, and her appointment as Executive Director of the Kona Historical Society.

PROGRAMS – Lynn Waterhouse, Bev Stehley

Lynn reported that the science programs for school children most frequently call on local experts from organizations like Keck Observatory, the National Park Service, and the University of Hawaii at Hilo and at Manoa. Bev noted that programs for adults most frequently focus on music, arts and crafts, and public service, and that a calabash is passed so that guests can make a donation to the library if they choose. F.O.L.K. makes a \$100 honorarium available to presenters, who need to accept it.

PUBLICITY – Joyce Kimball

Joyce reported that library programs and events are publicized for the most part through the newspaper, local websites, and flyers in the libraries. The local library website, www.folkhawaii.com does not get a lot of traffic, but its use is increasing. In response to a question from a member, Joyce noted that Kona libraries use the State website, www.librarieshawaii.org, to participate in social media such as Facebook and Twitter, and at this time there are no plans to add a separate Facebook page.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT – Ed Hickey

Ed told the members that he has a desk in the young adult section of the Kona Library and is on site each week on Tuesdays and Fridays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. He is primarily available to help users with the library computers, but is equipped to help with other devices as well, and is happy to help F.O.L.K. members with their computer questions.

BBB – Shirley David

Shirley noted that the goal of Books are Building Blocks is to encourage family read-aloud practice. The program is offered on the first Tuesday of each month from 4:30 to 6:30, beginning with registration in front of the Kona library and ending with refreshments on the library lanai. Shirley extended the Boards thanks to Costco and to Target for their continuing support of BBB.

SCHOLARSHIP – Beverly Stehley

Bev reported that the winner of the \$1000 Library Scholarship in 2013 is Jennifer Kau'i Losalio. Jennifer is working toward her Masters Degree in Library and Information Science at the University of Hawaii in Manoa, is currently employed as a library assistant at the Na'alehu Public Library, and also designed the Facebook page for the State Library System. The deadline to apply for the 2014 scholarship is April 30, 2014. The amount has been increased to \$2000.

BOOK CLUB – Bev Stehley

Bev advised that the Book Club membership numbers approximately 25, not all of whom attend each month. She noted that, were the membership were to expand much further, it might be a good idea to separate into two groups. However, there are no plans to do that in the coming year.

MEMBERSHIP – Alice Goo, Eleanor Pearson

Alice invited all who were present to take the opportunity to renew their memberships and provided application forms for the purpose. She explained that the number of F.O.L.K. members remains fairly constant at approximately 250. Alice extended her thanks to Ed Guerra, noting that memberships have increased significantly since he assumed responsibility for the Ways and Means Committee.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

As the Annual Meeting ended, an attending member, Cheryl King, suggested that others in F.O.L.K. might want to join her in writing letters to the editor of West Hawaii Today. Plans to reduce the position of school librarian at Konawaena High School from full to half time have met with strong resistance from within the community, and the hope is that, with strong enough opposition to the decrease, Librarian will remain a full-time position.

The Annual Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m., Respectfully submitted, Alice Facer, Secretary