

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES, KONA

F.O.L.K. ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES - JANUARY 24, 2017

The 2017 annual meeting of the Friends of Library Kona was called to order on January 24, 2017, at 10:10 a.m. on the Kailua Kona Library lanai by President Pamela Wang.

Slate of new officers and Board members 2017 previously approved for 2017:

Officers

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| President: | Pamela Wang |
| VP/Historian: | Shirley David |
| Treasurer: | Barbara Isley |
| Secretary: | Arne Werchick |

Directors

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| Activities: | Bev Stehley |
| Programs: | Suzanne Dmytrenko |
| Publicity: | Joyce Kimball |
| Membership: | Mardee Richardson |
| Ways and Means: | Ken Guerra |
| Science programs: | Lynn Waterhouse |
| Outreach/At Large: | Debra Dolsberry |

Treasurer Barbara Isley presented corrections to the draft minutes from the 2016 Annual Meeting minutes. Total reported income should be \$35,915. Total expenses should read \$39,754. Total sales were \$22,977 Library assistance was \$27,392. Administrative Expenses should be reflected to have been \$12,362. The TD Ameritrade account value was \$32,026. Total book sales for 2015 to be included under Old Business, last paragraph, the corrected balance should be \$22,779 rather than \$15,000. As therefore corrected, the minutes of the last annual meeting which were adopted. MSA

The Treasurer's report for 2016 shows income of \$10,618 from grants and donations, \$21,838 from fund raising, \$2,90 from membership dues, for a total of \$35,382. Administrative Expenses totaled \$15,462; Library Assistance was \$18,038. With investments, total assets as of December 31, 2016, are \$53,414. The Ameritrade account holds ETFs and index funds; since March 2013 it's value has increased 7.83%. Funds being accumulated will go towards library enhancements. FOLK depends on the branch librarians to guide us as to best use of funds. We have F.O.L.K. Annual

never refused a library request for support, sometimes asking for additional information or agreed revisions.

Denise Stromberg and Shelly Brown, our two librarians, are introduced. Kona head librarian Denise points out that the building opened February 26, 1992, and the year is celebrating our 25th anniversary. Denise was the first person assigned to work in this building and has been here the entire time. Anniversary week will have many programs, one day dedicated to educate about different on-line services the library offers. <check out HSPLS app> John Kiawe will provide musical entertainment on February 25th. New stacking chairs are finally due to arrive -- TODAY! Regarding FOLK memberships, donations of \$50 or more will get a commemorative paper nameplate in a library book selected by Denise.

Shelly Brown, Kealakekua librarian, reports the branch is trying to increase from 22 open hours each week and is certain much more can be done with more hours. She reports she just today received approval from the State Librarian to conduct a public survey on how to use an 8 hour/week expansion. Currently the Kealakekua branch has the lowest number of open hours in the state system. She expects adding hours will greatly increase public use. She is also in the process of hiring a Library III staff person. Several ideas for capital improvements were mentioned including possible floor sound proofing, installing a drinking fountain, creating a functional staff lounge.

President Wang notes that FOLK did replace the carpet in the Kona branch three years ago. Capital improvements take a long time to process because the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) has to approve any physical changes to structures which can be a painfully slow process.

Vice President Shirley David who also acts as Historian presented the annual commemorative book which includes the monthly newsletters and other documents showing FOLK programs and activities. She also reported that FOLK's Facebook page which started just over a year ago has advertised 46 events and is working on increasing impact. The Scholarship committee each year for honors students working towards a Masters of Library Sciences Information degree. Applicants must be Hawaii resident, with preference given to Big Island residents. This year two \$2000 scholarships were awarded; one anonymous donor funds one of the scholarships and FOLK the other. The 2016 recipients were Robert Dahlke (local high school teacher) who has been instrumental in getting student volunteers for FOLK book sales, and Chezlani Cesar from Honokaa very active in Hawaii State Library student organization.

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Suzanne Dmytrenko reported that FOLK hosted ten 2016 programs, a number of which were musical. Speaker programs dealt with such subjects as landlord-tenant disputes, dengue fever, and Hawaii trusts.

Lynn Waterhouse reported on science programs which covered topics such as marine debris, astronomy, coqui frogs, and Hawaii geology; upcoming programs are scheduled to address astronomy, marine biology, and birds of the island.

President Want reported on the status of the Community Seed Library (CSL) which started a year ago. Lots of programs have already been presented about growing in Hawaii, soil preservation and other topics of interest to local gardeners and growers.

Bev Stehley reported on the FOLK Book Club which convenes the third Tuesday every month at 11:00 a.m. Some interest has been expressed in adding a night book club so various options are being considered. The book club has proven very inexpensive even though FOLK is one of the few making book selections freely available for members rather than requiring purchase of the monthly selection. Total expenses for 2016 were \$300 plus using Amazon points accumulated from using the FOLK credit card; the book club has received about \$125 in donations from members. Bev also handles the "Books for Babies" project, originally a 4-H program taken over by FOLK, providing "first books" for the Community Hospital nursery; so far in the approximately three months FOLK has managed the program there have on average been 55 babies born each month.

Joyce Kimball reported on FOLK publicity; she has prepared most of the fliers for display and the monthly newsletters. Since distributing the newsletters by e-mail (in color), FOLK has only had to print 65 newsletters for mailing at a cost of approximately \$2.10 for each physical copy. FOLK is also in progress of working on re-design of our website.

Ken Guera chairs the Ways & Means Committee the function of which is revenue generation. Book sales is the largest program that FOLK sponsors which also requires considerable volunteer support. Charting book sales shows annual results over five years: lobby sales for 2012 \$15,092, 2013 \$9904, 2014 \$9699, 2015 \$10,659, 2016 \$10,175; lanai sales for 2012 \$15,037, 2013 \$15,142, 2014 \$14562, 2015 \$12,120, 2016 \$11,336. The Kealakekua branch in 2016 raised \$305 from book sales. The Kona lobby is open for daily sales whenever library is open. Five year period generated \$106,700 for the library. Part of this income paid for rehabilitation projects at Kealakekua and for furniture, drapes, and fixtures; in addition FOLK underwrote the cost of replacing the carpet at the Kona branch which cost approximately \$38,000. A member asked about setting of sale prices noting F.O.L.K. Annual Meeting Minutes

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that \$5 for coffee table books seems very low and perhaps should be raised. Ken notes that no fixed rule governs pricing, so the subject can be discussed in future.

President Wang report on Membership for Mardee Richardson who, working with past Board member and Membership chair Eleanor Pearson, has brought FOLK to over 300 members. The last book sale alone resulted in 11 new members and 11 renewals.

Debra Dolsberry now chairs FOLK Outreach currently looking for ways to distribute books that cannot be sold at library sales and how best to move them into the community.

The undersigned Board Secretary reports on the inauguration and development of FOLK's "Brand New Not-Just-a-Book-Club Travel Conversation Society" which meets monthly to provide a forum for sharing ideas about travel books, computer resources, recent travel experiences and future travel plans. The group has grown to over two dozen attendees and numerous more e-mail list members.

President Wang reports that FOLK funds the "Friendly Bus" to bring Second Graders to visit the library, make sure they each receive library cards and learn what the library can provide for them. She notes the hand-crafted books created by children who have visited and expressed thanks to our librarian.

There being no new business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m. *sine die*.
MSA

Respectfully submitted,

ARNE WERCHICK
F.O.L.K. Board Secretary