

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES, KONA

F.O.L.K. BOARD MEETING MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 by President Pamela Wang. Attending were Natalie Guerin, Shirley David, Martha Richardson, Denise Stromberg, Shelly Brown, Barbara Isley, Suzanne Dmytrenko, Arne Werchick, and President Pamela Wang.

Natalie Guerin reported on the Community Seed Library. Saturday is the one year anniversary event with a community seed swap and party. People will be present to answer an and all questions. CSL has its own Facebook page. Close to 1500 seed packets have now been distributed. Attendees will be asked how they heard about the program.

All present having read the draft minutes by e-mail, reading of the minutes was waived and minutes of the August 16, 2016, Board meeting were approved. MSA

Martha (Mardee) Richardson introduced to step into membership duties replacing Eleanor Pearson; Eleanor plans to continue assisting with book sales. Appointment to board and membership chair approved. MSA

The undersigned reported on plans to revamp "AskArn" computer advice and help to a new format to see if it generates increased community interest. A monthly Saturday morning session to provide help with smart phones, tablets and notebook computers will be started November 26, results to be reported back to the Board. In addition, feelers are being put out to see if there is any interest among local high school students who are National Honor Society members to take over the weekday afternoon presence in the library to help walk-ins with computer issues.

Your humble secretary also introduced the idea of a new travel discussion group to meet at the library monthly on a Saturday morning. Discussions would open with conversation about any interesting travel books attendees may have read or new travel-related books in the library collection. Discussion would then flow to topics such as using home computers to plan travel, favorite itineraries, cruise line recommendations, and wherever attendees wish to take the discussion. A "soft-opening" meeting is scheduled for Saturday, December 10th, and a "grand opening" for Saturday, January 21, 2017, on the tentative topic "Planning Amazing Spring and Summer Travels for 2017."

Chezlani Casar from Honokaa, one of the recipients of a F.O.L.K \$2000 scholarship, was introduced. She is presently working at local library as an intern, which counts

as one of her classes, and hopes to complete her MLIS degree via distance-learning program this year. She plans to join the HSPLS system and hopes to work in a north Hawaii library.

Treasurer Barbara Isley reports assets \$49,166.79 as of the end of August. Expenses have been normal. She explained the expenditure of \$296.88 library maintenance which covers gardener and pest control and reported regarding the ; F.O.L.K. Ameritrade account. Treasurer report approved. MSA

Shirley David provided additional details regarding F.O.L.K Facebook activity.

Suzanne Dmytrenko reports five programs are scheduled between October 1 and February:

- October 1 a Hula Group;
- November 15 on History of Hawaiian Trusts;
- December 6 Folk member Hawaiian Silk Painting;
- December 10 Solomon Choo musician;
- February 7 Ku'ulei Keakealani talk story.

Tentative programs: Hawaiian quilt talk and Hawaiian gourds, dates to be established. It was suggested that we add a program on little fire ants, perhaps in coordination with CSL.

Bev Stehley will be absent until 4th but the Book Club meets today at 11 a. m. to discuss "Beautiful Mystery".

Barbara Isley reports Books for Babies has ordered 120 board books from Scholastic.com at about \$3.75, \$447 total so far. Bev will organize volunteers to put together packages. Mardee reports about existing related on-island programs.

Barbara reports \$875 book sale -- poorest in long time. Recommends dropping newspaper ads because billing is a nightmare. Newspaper giving a credit for missing Friday paper before last sale. Costs \$125 for each book sale. Ken buys \$175 in \$5 gift cards for volunteers; 11 remaining, 24 used. (I.e., \$100 in gift cards for last book sale). Shelly recommends using Tribune Herald free ad for Hilo side; avid book buyers. Next book sale October 15, date reset because of Ironman. Cash register doesn't calculate tax -- this is a new problem.

Mardee reported 26 new members August and September, 12 or 13 from the book sale. She reported on membership renewals, life members and deletions (5). F.O.L.K. will look into getting a discount for the gift cards awarded to volunteers at book sales if bought in bulk.

Shelly Brown is introduced as the new librarian at the Kealakekua branch. She has been with HSLHS for about 20 years. For Kealakekua she would like to focus on increasing open hours. Presently the branch is open to the public only 22 hours a

week primarily driven by staffing requirements. She is recruiting for the Library III position. She plans on a better "Open" sign and would like a banner facing street; she was advised she can use her discretionary funds for items under \$100. Barbara Isley is to give her a summary of the financial support we offer. The branch air conditioning system was down for a year and has now been restored. She would also like to start a book club, probably with an emphasis on Hawaiian history and culture. The branch is looking for student helpers as paid part time employees.

Denise Stromberg reports that new chairs were on the ship that got turned away due to the hurricane and hopes for delivery today. Regarding the CSL 2017 budget, expenses will be monthly program with \$100 honorarium for each, \$100 for an anniversary party, \$100 for miscellaneous supplies. She requests raising the budget to \$1400; tabled until the December meeting when budgets typically are reviewed. The library will celebrate its 25th anniversary in this building next February. Denise would like to invite John Kiawe for a musical program planned for February 25th and requests a \$350 budget for the program. MSA The Hawaii Library Association annual meeting will be at U. of H. in Hilo this year November 11-12; donations are requested for a silent auction for scholarships they give. During the first week in October the state library system will launch the new HSPLS web page. Each branch will be able to publicize its own local events on HSPLS web page. It is advertised as much more fun to use, very user friendly, compared to the current web site. It will also have separate section for branch book clubs.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m. Next meeting October 18th; your humble servant will regrettably be absent.

Respectfully submitted,

ARNE WERCHICK
Secretary