

# FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES, KONA

## F.O.L.K. BOARD MEETING MINUTES - February 9, 2021

The February 9, 2021, meeting, conducted via Zoom video conference, was called to order at 10:12 by President Wang. In attendance were Vice President Shirley David, Treasurer Barbara Isley, Secretary Arne Werchick, and Board members Donna Monti, Ken Guerra, Fred Hornbruch III, Joyce Kimball, John Kitchen and Mardee Richardson. Excused: Suzanne Dmytrenko. Branch librarians are occupied with duties this morning, will not be able to attend.

The minutes of the meeting of January 19<sup>th</sup> were approved. MSA

Pres Wang notes if anyone has comments regarding library staff and operations, contact PLB at <https://www.librarieshawaii.org/connect/staff/give-us-feedback/>. Several people have reported unhappiness with the Kealahou branch being closed. There have been complaints regarding the different operation of rules at the various branches.

Barbara Isley presented the treasurer's report (additional information attached below). She has received a \$1000 check for the scholarship fund and \$94 income for Kealahou book sales. As of the end January F.O.L.K. net worth was \$32,200 of which \$645 is left from Elks grant for Books for Babies. Treasurer report accepted; MSA.

Vice President Shirley David reports regarding scholarships. John Kitchen, Fred Hornbruch and Shirley will constitute the scholarship committee. F.O.L.K. has already committed \$4000 already to Stacy Bisgard and \$2000 to Stephanie Nakamura, last year's recipients who continue their studies; they have been informed. We were planning not to advertise that applications for 2021 are open but since then received an inquiry from another applicant starting studies at University of Hawaii, Manoa. We are letting her apply and will consider making an additional award when we have further information; her application has not yet been received.

Shirley in her capacity as F.O.L.K. Historian also reports the annual history binder for 2020 has been completed, and she has started accumulating materials for 2021.

John Kitchen renews the conversation about an annual fundraising event for F.O.L.K. We first would need to identify the purpose and direction of such an event, plus when it best would be held and a suitable location. Barbara suggests good timing would be a celebration of the reopening of the libraries. The undersigned plus Fred Hornbruch volunteer to serve with John; all will depend on developments with the pandemic.

Donna Monti reports a successful Zoom meeting of the Book Club in January to discuss *The Leavers* by Lisa Ko. The February selection is *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens; *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins is scheduled for March. Shirley is leading the April meeting discussing *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek*. By Kim Michele Richardson.

The proliferation of small libraries outside homes is noted. There is a national non-profit organization [<https://littlefreelibrary.org/>] supporting this development; one can join by buying one of their plaques to mount on your library. Mardee Richardson thinks the path below Kealakehe High School along the highway would be good place for one or more small libraries. She also notes some people have been re-purposing old newspaper vending stands as tiny libraries. For F.O.L.K. to support such efforts would require organizing volunteers to keep them supplied.

Ken Guerra reports meeting with Kaipō Ka'iliawa on Saturday at his rented warehouse regarding handling of used books. Kaipō is paying for two storage U-Haul units across from Kiawe Square and another in Kealakekua. All are packed solid with books, with no room at all. When he pulls books from the used book store van, he selects books he can use for his business, then books for the library, and lastly book discards. U-Haul won't permit any sorting on-sight; their rules only the owner of a unit to work at the unit. Working through the books for the library will be a prodigious job; the first priority is deciding where this can happen. This depends on Kaipō's availability since no one else has access. Ken is tentatively meeting him again on the 20<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m.; Fred will join the meeting. Regarding the Haulers who take excess books from the Pit, a problem arose when Kaipō ran an ad in newspaper asking for people interested in taking the discards; the Haulers then contacted him and reached an agreement directly. Kaipō agreed he would sort and set aside books good for the Haulers; they wanted access to book store inventory, which was unacceptable to Kaipō. The result was that Kaipō terminated his arrangement with Haulers who then contacted Ken, asking for access to the books. To defuse the matter, Ken advised we would contact the Haulers directly if and when we get back in operation for book sales, and Cheryl Hauler expressed satisfaction with that arrangement. For now Kaipō's discards go to the dump rather than to the Haulers. Ken doesn't know what inventory might still exist in the Pit. We are still on hold with the library as to when sales might resume.

Ken reports that Suzanne Dmytrenko has been in conversation with the owner of the farmers' market next door to the library and believes the fee for a tent is \$400/month rent plus insurance. She is also checking into the International Marketplace.

Barbara and Mardee question why we cannot have separate access to the Pit rather than being subject to library admission rules for the general public.

Mardee Richardson previously submitted monthly membership reports which are attached.

Board meeting recessed and the annual meeting called to order at 11:25. The next meeting of the F.O.L.K. Board of Directors will be March 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. Joyce Kimball is leaving Kona on March 23<sup>rd</sup> but will continue to

attend electronically.

Respectfully submitted  
ARNE WERCHICK  
Secretary

Reports attached:

Treasurer's Reports

## Report: Accounts Summary Copy 2

Last Month: 1/1/2021 - 1/31/2021  
2 Accounts, 87 Categories

Category	SHARE DRAFT CHECKING
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>\$1,515.75</b>
DONATIONS & GRANTS	\$1,000.00
Grants	\$1,000.00
FUNDRAISING INCOME TAXABLE	\$93.75
Kealakekua Lobby Sales	\$93.75
Membership Dues	\$422.00
<b>EXPENSE</b>	<b>-\$595.04</b>
COST OF SALES	-\$16.25
Ebay/PayPal expenses	-\$16.25
LIBRARY ASSISTANCE	-\$575.89
Maintenance	-\$175.89
Kailua Kona	-\$175.89
Programs	-\$400.00
Kailua Kona Young Adults Library	-\$400.00
Taxes	-\$2.90
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$920.71</b>

## NET WORTH: OVERVIEW

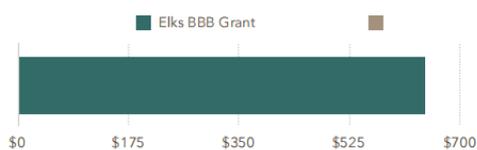
### TOTAL ASSETS

Asset Category	Asset Value
Checking Account	\$4,495
TD Ameritrade Cash	\$6,200
TD Ameritrade Investments	\$22,151
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$32,845</b>



### TOTAL LIABILITIES

Debt Category	Liabilities
Elks BBB Grant	\$645
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$645</b>



**TOTAL NET WORTH: \$32,200**

## Membership Report

### **January's data for February's Board Meeting**

#### **Membership**

There were 345 members on our roster this month, of those 241 are members in good standing.

#### **New Members – one**

#### **Renewals, Edits, Updates, Issues**

46 renewal reminder postcards were prepped and sent. **18 renewals** were received.

#### **Friends:**

**1**

#### **In Memoriam - none**

#### **Member Deletions: 11**