**Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library**

Board Meeting Minutes, January 20, 2016

**Present:** Sandy Bradley, Vickie Schauf, Bill Eichenberg, Carol Pearson, Charissa Wagner, Roy Parris, Peggy Johnson, and Barbara Lupei.

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. The agenda was approved. The minutes of the November 18, 2015 meeting were approved.

**Librarian’s Report:** Charissa Wagner reported the following:

* Sherry Wade, who has been the librarian at Southwest Branch, is now one of two Regional Librarians and is in charge of the half that includes Ridgecrest. The other Regional Librarian is Carla Mason. The Regional Librarians will take care of all branch-related issues for the branches they oversee. It was suggested that Sherry attend a future Friends meeting and she has been informed of the upcoming dates. She has not planned her visit to our branch yet.
* Shelving for the children’s room has been installed. She sent thank you letters to the newspapers. She would like to purchase a plaque to place on the end of one of the shelves to honor the donation from the Peck Family Foundation. A motion was proposed to allow stipend funds to be used for this purpose. The motion was passed.
* Charissa worked with the staff to prepare a Wish List. Some items were discussed briefly (flat-screen TV for sign board, ceiling mounted projector for meeting room, automated blinds) and all agreed that the list should be cut to the top 5 to 10 items and prioritized.
* The county requires that General Services inspect and approve any planned improvements to the building, such as changing tables, outdoor tables, flat-screen TV, etc. The branch must cover this cost. A motion was made to approve $5K to $6K expenditure for the inspection/purchase/installation of wish list items and it was approved. Each item will be reviewed/approved by the board before funds are obligated.
* The county will be installing ADA compliant front doors and circulation desk.
* Four large, colorful origami-style cranes have been hung from the ceiling in the children’s room.
* She has been promoting the fundraiser at Pizza Factory and Beanster’s.
* There has been a regular problem with bags of donations blocking the book drop when the library is closed. This precludes patrons from dropping off their books. Solutions were discussed and it was decided that a sign will be posted directing people to leave donations between the book drop and the front of the building.
* Volunteers are needed for tasks in the library. Ads will be placed in the newsletter.

**President’s Report:** Sandy Bradley reported

* The KCL community meeting in Ridgecrest on December 16, 2015 was well attended. When asked who was against outsourcing libraries, all attendees were unanimously against it.
* John Nilon will present the results of the branch meetings to the Kern County Board of Supervisors on February 2. Library supporters can attend the meeting in Bakersfield or the VTC in Ridgecrest at the county building near the library at 2:00 p.m. [On January 24, Sandy sent out a link to Nilon’s report: <http://www.co.kern.ca.us/libraryfeedback.aspx#.VqVwecfp5kM> ]
* The ALE leaders have requested an agenda item to propose putting the tax initiative on the ballot in June.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Bill Eichenberg

* The financial status report for December was discussed.
* The end of year report is not ready yet. He is waiting on forms from the Navy Federal credit union. It should be ready for the next meeting.
* The spending plan for 2016 was presented and discussed. Board members agreed on a $3K increase to the equipment expense line item that will come from savings. The plan will be voted on at the next meeting.
* Shortly after submitting the United Way package, they donated a check for $946.24. Bill is checking to see if the CFC requires a separate submission.

**Vice-President, Book Sales Report:** Vickie Schauf reported

* The book sale in the library was closed for a week in December due to the holidays.
* She is concerned that Bill and Flo Eichenberg have become over extended with the semi-annual book sales. She has been working with them to describe tasks involved in leadership of a sale. She is writing “want ads” for the newsletter to recruit volunteers for these tasks.
* Dates were chosen for the 2016 book sales: March 5 and 12 for the Spring sales, and September 17 and 24 for the Fall sales.
* She will talk to John Anderson about repeating his class on valuing books for sale as collectibles on Amazon. There may be new options to streamline the process.
* An additional hand truck is needed for the annex. This expenditure was approved. Roy offered to take the old hand truck in for repairs as well. [This has been completed.]

**Vice-President, Membership Report:** Carol Pearson reported

* In the past month there have been 22 renewals and 3 new members.
* She prepared a list of people who donated $50 or more to publish in the newsletter. There are 33 donors on the list.

**Newsletter:**  Deadline for next newsletter – January 29, 2016.

**Old Business:**

* Sandy has attended two meetings regarding the median sculpture. Milt Burford has completed the sculpture. Caltrans will allow no more than 4 installations at a time for traffic and safety reasons. She does not have a date yet for installation of the FRBL sculpture.
* The Pizza Factory and Beanster’s fundraiser has been renewed for the dates of the FRBL meetings in 2016. In the last 6 months of 2015, this fundraiser brought in $366.

**New Business: no new business**

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m. Members were encouraged to eat lunch at Pizza Factory to support the fundraiser.

The next Board meeting will be **Wednesday, February 17, 2016,** at 10:00 a.m. at the Ridgecrest Library Community Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Lupei, Secretary