

Friends of the Sonoma Valley Library Board Meeting – Minutes March 10, 2022

Present: Janet Constantino, Tom Haeuser, Robyn Makaruk, Kathleen Gray, Robin Kunde, Beverly Seyfert, Mario Castillo, Sabine Salek, Sarah Vantrease and Madolyn Agrimonti. A quorum was present.

Note: Meeting was in the form of a Zoom conference.

Meeting was called to order at 3:02 PM

Minutes of the February 10, 2022, meeting were approved.

New Business:

Mario Castillo provided a report about a racially biased incident that happened at the Sonoma Valley Library branch building in late November 2021. A derogatory word was painted on the side of the library wall. This painful incident points out that we need to pay more attention to racial equity at all levels of the library. The Library staff, Library Advisory Board and Friends group agreed to meet to discuss how to handle both this incident and anything that happens in the future. Janet Constantino, Sabine Salek and Tom Haeuser will be meeting to discuss how to uplift and give voice to those who are marginalized.

We made a commitment to provide representation at the summertime Farmer's Market in Sonoma. Tuesday nights from May to September 5 PM – 8 PM. We need Liability Insurance naming the City of Sonoma and Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce as additional insured -Insurance to include \$2M General Liability per occurrence. Specific language needs to read: The City of Sonoma and the Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce, its elected or appointed officers, officials, employees and volunteers, #1 The Plaza, Sonoma, CA 95476.

We determined it will be safe enough to meet in person on April 14, 2022, regularly scheduled meeting.

Unfinished Business:

We are still in need of a secretary. Robin Kunde was appointed Secretary pro tem. We will rotate Secretarial duties until one is found.

We are still in need of a Book Sale Chair. We decided to action this discussion to an offsite/in person meeting TBD.

We declined to donate to the Education Foundation for Literacy Program Grant because they were requesting money to fund a position/salary.

We decided to post donation and book sale dates on the Friends web site.

A van was parking in the library parking lot and they left garbage and debris. It was explained that the police won't even come to remove them unless they have a place to offer them to go and Sonoma does not have anywhere to "remove them to". We cannot post a No Trespassing sign because it is City property and thus public. We will have to continue to pick up after them and repair any damage to the sheds.

There have been some challenges fitting all of our business into a 45 minute meeting. We are the only FOL who meets concurrently with the Library Advisory Board. We determined we would like to have a full hour for our meeting. Robyn Makaruk moved and Robin Kunde seconded a motion to allow for a full hour for the Friends of the Library to meet. Motion carried.

Reports:

Vice President: Robin Kunde reported the balance of the Jane Kunde Charitable Trust on February 28, 2022 was \$803,285. Distribution of 2021 Income in the neighborhood of \$30-40,000 will be made in May when the Tax Return for the Trust and audited books are complete.

Our new members were the result of our partnership with the Federal Credit Union.

Secretary: No report.

Treasurer: Robyn Makaruk reported that our tax returns are completed. Two copies were provided; 1 for our files and the other for public inspection.

Member at Large; No report.

Library Branch Manager: Sabine Salek reported that she spoke at the Springs Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) meeting.

The library hours are as follows:

Monday: 10am-6pm

Tuesday: 10am-8pm

Wednesday: 10am-8pm

Thursday: 10am-6pm

Friday: 10am-6pm

Saturday: 10am-6pm

Our new Teen Librarian, Kim Dargeou, is excited to help with programming. We also have an Adult Services Librarian, Brian Lym.

The 3D printer is working again after being out of commission for a time.

There is funding request for \$505.00 to cover portable tables/benches outdoors and baskets (like at the supermarket). There is a proposed reading program for third grade students to read to a teenager. Robyn Makaruk moved and Janet Constantino seconded a motion to grant the funding request. Motion carried.

Membership: Kathleen Gray reported two new members by virtue of our partnership with Federal Credit Union.

Newsletter: Discussion of a newsletter was forward actioned to Friday's ad hoc meeting.

Publicity: No report.

Commissioner: Tom Haueser reported there is talk of Sunday hours; from 1 PM to 4 PM.

Sarah Vantrease reported the County is working on the 2022-2023 budget and will be holding a workshop on April 1st – a public meeting.

City of Sonoma Liaison: Madolyn Agrimonti shared that Sonoma Splash is working in partnership with the Sonoma Valley School District to sustainably build and operate an aquatic center located at the Sonoma Valley High School at 20000 Broadway. They are fundraising by selling tiles, lanes and naming opportunities.

City funding for the homeless has run out and that means the stays at the Best Western have run out but the Safe Parking program is still there. Madolyn is on the board to discern how to provide a continuum of care for the unhoused.

Book Sales: We still need a chair person and the book donations and sales are continuing.

Book Clubs: No reports.

The next regular meeting of the Friends will be 3 PM on Thursday April 14, 2022.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 PM.