

**Friends of the Sonoma Valley Library Board Meeting
November 11, 2021 via Zoom**

Present: Madolyn Agrimonti, Ken Brown, Beverly Seyfert, Janet Constantino, Karen Sanders, Robin Kunde, Robyn Makaruk

The meeting was called to order at 3:05pm.

Minutes of the meeting on October 14 approved.

New Business: There has yet to be someone to fill the Board position of Secretary. Until that happens three board members will rotate in recording minutes of the meeting. We officially need five voting board members.

Unfinished Business: Continuing search for Secretary. Robyn met Mary Evelyn Arnold and asked if she could help, and she agreed to put her thinking cap on. To be followed up by Robyn. Janet will ask Laurie, our website manager to put up another request on the Friends website.

Reports:

President, Janet Constantino: Email from Sara Vantrease introducing Craig Palmer, the new Fund Development Manager, (replacing Sirie). Janet has a zoom meeting scheduled with him for next Tuesday. Although a 'meet and greet' meeting, she plans to tell him about Sonoma, and let him know we're looking for a new Secretary and Book Sale Coordinator, and that we have lots of money to spend, and hear what he has in mind. Craig will be attending the next meeting. A discussion followed with suggestions of funding scholarships, which led to scholarship funds for not only academic but also vocational pursuits, or needs. Madolyn talked about the Woman's Club's scholarships and is meeting with the Junior College regarding their vocational training program scholarships for young girls going into the trades. She will also find out what the Educational Foundation is doing in regard to funding scholarships. Robyn mentioned the nursing programs and other health care programs at junior colleges where tuition and other fees are often out of reach for many students.

Vice President, Robin Kunde: Robin reported that the next book sale is on Sunday, November 21, 10:00-3:00pm. In the parking lot (weather permitting) or under the overhang if rain. One more donation day is Thursday November 18, 9-11:00am. Maximum 6 bags, donors must wear masks and unload their own car. Robin has been working with Tony Pisacane and is willing to liaise between Tony and the board for now. He is very comfortable working with Wayne Schake to provide persons for setup and takedown and the moving of heavy boxes. Madolyn indicated that she might have resources for help, and Robin suggested to let Wayne know and then he and Tony will decide on need. Robin reported that she has a very good relationship with Tony, and is willing to continue as liaison until a Coordinator is found. Tony has asked for the membership list; he feels there are many inactive and/lapsed members, but not sure what he wants to do with it. Robyn M stated that the database was originally set up by Dave Dobbins and was purged from time to time in the past. It could be an easy task for Kathleen (membership) to provide data on lapsed memberships and the number of years of non-renewal.

Treasurer, Robyn Makaruk: Financials for September and October were sent out previously. Third quarter statements for both investment accounts, Vanguard and Sonoma Community Foundation were received. Total assets have reached \$525,241. Offsite book sales (Tony) total \$4,094 as of October 31, and this did not include the early months of 2021. A credit balance of \$143 is available at Patt's Copy World.

Member at Large, Karen Sanders. No report

Branch Manager: Sabine reported class and library staff visits to schools, some programs resuming, an outside table for the League of Women Voters to register voters and provide information, a visit to a high school world history class, and a visit from a Hanna High School English class. New Library offerings include three new student databases: Science Flix, for 4th-10th grade students, MakeMake which contains Spanish language e-books and materials, and the Teen Resource Center, offering information about finance, personal growth and health to high school students. Staff training on how to use Purple VRS, a video relay service installed on a public computer that allows deaf and hard-of-hearing patrons to connect with sign language interpreters to make phone calls. New staff member, Brian Lym, a half-time adult services librarian has begun training and will be at the branch soon. Interviews beginning for a full-time teen services librarian. Curbside pick-ups have declined 99% as in-person use of the library has increased significantly.

Library Commission: Tom Hauser reported that Joanne Sanders has resigned from the LAB. Ken Brown will step in as chair. A Zoom meeting for LAB members held on Oct. 20. A facility survey is available to the public at sonomalibrary.org/news/facilities2021.

Madolyn had questions about whether the library has Bibliobus post cards and was referred to Sabine, and concerns about tutors at the library disturbing patrons, and no space for themselves. A discussion followed about the forum room and whether the furniture could be stored off-site, the room cleaned and made available for tutors and other meetings. A request that the Branch Manager get direction from Administration on what the timeline is for future use.

City Council, Madolyn Agrimonti. Had coffee with the newly elected Council member, Sandra Lowe. She has lots of ideas, and is serving on the Sonoma Development Committee, which is great. Northeast space at corner of W. 5th & MacArthur for a dog park? New City Manager. Looking at Casa Grande parking lot. New policy for Parklets; any accidents to be reported to the City. Looking at solutions for homeless, (hotel vouchers as an example). Madolyn expressed her pleasure to be the City liaison with the Friends.

Committees:

Book Sales: Robin reported previously that she will continue to work with Tony until a Coordinator is appointed. (See Vice President's report)

Book Clubs: *Mystery Book Club* and *Classical Reflections*: No reports.

Publicity: Karen reported the book sale publicity went smoothly. Future sales will be posted on the "Events" page (new) rather than an article such as was done in the past. Discussion on the various contacts who publish the copy, and who writes it. Karen confirmed that she writes the copy in order to assure accuracy.

A question was raised whether the December meeting, normally a party, would take place but it was the consensus that until the Forum room is available, and while Covid protocols are in place, it would be a 'virtual' celebration - wear holiday garb and raise a glass.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Next Regular Meeting, December 9, 2021.