**Friends of the Sonoma Valley Library Board Meeting – Minutes February 11, 2021**

Present: Madolyn Agrimonti, Mario Castillo, Janet Constantino, Kathleen Gray, Tom Haeuser, Robin Kunde, Karen Sanders, Beverly Seyfert, Susan Shinomoto, Diana Spaulding, Sirie Thongchua, Marge Thomas. Janette Tschann, Sarah Vantrease

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

Meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.

*Central Admin*: Sirie reported: Tax revenues are better than expected. Roseland Library is seeing capital improvements to its new site at 470 Sebastopol Rd. Public listening sessions are happening soon and you're encouraged to attend [see dates in Branch Manager report]. Friends and Foundation Presidents' Council meets next Tuesday with insurance broker Recently, Foundation postcards were distributed for sharing library love. [*Sirie’s report attached*]

Minutes of the January 2021 meeting approved

*New Business*: Janette, Book Sale Manager, suggests a small book sale from Tony’s stock of books in parking lot on a Sunday when library is closed. *After discussion*, including agreement from branch manager and county representative and description of Rohnert Park/Cotati sale, (at a farmers’ market, bags of books by genre), it was agreed that, provided City agrees (and the City is included in our liability insurance) and that details of safety measures to control flow of shoppers is in place, the sale should happen. Decision remaining: whom to invite? Members only? Everyone on contact list? Sonoma Valley community at large?

Janet thanked Janette for her thoughtful work.

*Unfinished Business*: No unfinished business

*President*: No report

*Vice- President*: Both Robin and Karen went to the Reimagining meeting. Karen reported on the three questions: (1) In what kind of community do you want to live? (2) Why is the library important to you? (3) What has to happen to the library? Robin reported that the conversation, in 3 sessions, was wide ranging, beyond the scope of the library, though at its best it supports all that residents want of their community: social justice, mental health, transportation, environmental protections, internet access, the importance of which was emphasized. “The internet is like water….”

A concern for the storage of central library archives, now in a precarious place subject to both flooding and fires, was also raised in discussion.

*Secretary*: No report

*Treasurer*: Reports previously distributed, including updated December report, and overview of 2020, and the January report. Highlights: December update shows income from investments and a correct to amount for Outreach. Overview for 2020 shows income from only two book sales, one quarterly and one mini, and income from Tony’s off-site sales. Total income for 2020 was still $60,533 over 2019 income, primarily due to investments. January, 2021, report shows $200 “miscellaneous”. This is rent to Tony for storage container and Susan will create a line item for this even though it is a temporary expense. January shows very little income from memberships and off-site sales and expenses of allocation to branch and rental of container.

*Member-at-Large*: See above under Vice-President.

*Membership*: The reminder letter to lapsed members resulted in nine renewals and information from several who have moved from the area. There has been interest in paying by credit card, and we will ask Laurie, our website manager if we can include credit card possibility on the site. Now we can take information by hand and then use Square to activate it.

*Book Sales:* With the renewal of limited outdoor book sales, Janette’s responsibilities are extensive. A new job description is not necessary at this time.

*Mystery Book Club*: Kassandra asked for reimbursement for two sets of books for club, which will be held until meetings resume. The Board previously allocated funds for the 2020 book year and, with receipt of paperwork, Susan will issue payment to Kassandra as she requests.

*Publicity*: No report

Meeting adjourned at 3:45. Next meeting March 11, 2021.

*The LAB met immediately after the FOL. Reports from Branch Manager, County, Commission, and City Council are briefly reported here and will be found in the LAB minutes.*

Commission: Tom reported that the interim finance administrator continues to seek amounts remaining in Kunde Fund allocations as well as Foundation statistics. Concern was raised that with a total amount in the Kunde Trust Fund of $766,013 and another allocation of $30,000 to $40,000 coming up within a couple of months, clearing up the loss of financial information is a significant problem.

Reimagining sessions are on-going; 3 scheduled for Feb. 22, 27, and March 4.

The current budget may be amended to include more expense, given that tax receipts are doing well, somewhat better than expected.

Staff continues to work on a plan for reopening libraries, with the goal of not opening so soon that a new closure might occur.

The current archives at Los Guilicos will be examined and a safe place for storage will be found.

County Admin: Sirie reported that one component of the Reimagining program is hearing from those not connected to the library. Staff has completed about 100 interviews with community leaders and others, asking what are the challenges for their members and communities. [see also Sirie’s report at beginning of FOL meeting]

Donations from trust funds should be determined by March.

Circulation continues to increase but is still about half what it was before the pandemic. Last month almost 19,000 served through pick-up program.

New on-line book club focusing on Black and indigenous writers.

New sorting facilities will soon be added to move materials among branches more quickly.

Roseland’s facility is in process and is expected to open in June. The building is currently used for COVID testing and vaccinations.

Branch Manager: *Diana’s report attached*. Highlights: Expanded free wifi allows network availability throughout parking lot and front of library.

Curbside pick-up from January to February 6 have been from about 390 to 430 every week.

Valentine’s card making a success with over 250 cards submitted by community and will go to Vintage House for distribution.

Public listening sessions for Reimagining the Library are Feb. 22 and 27 at 10 am and March 4 at 6 pm.

Diana will lead the Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) book club in discussion of *An American Marriage* on Feb. 23, 6pm

City Council: Madolyn reported that major concern is finding shelter for the homeless and obtaining the appropriate number of Los Guilicos huts for the homeless of Sonoma Valley. It has been a struggle to place people there.

Marge Thomas, FOL Secretary