**Friends of the Sonoma Valley Library Board Meeting – Minutes February 13, 2020**

Present: Janet Constantino, Tom Haeuser, Ann Hammond, Robin Kunde, Karen Sanders, Beverly Seyfert, Susan Shinomoto, Diana Spaulding, Marge Thomas, Sirie Thongchua, Sarah Vantrease

Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

Minutes of the January 10, 2020, meeting were approved.

Unfinished Business: Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast: Robin reviewed last year’s successful event**. It was agreed by consensus that FOL would host a similar event on April 23**, from 9-10 a.m. with invitations to approximately 82 active SV Library volunteers, with the same menu provided by Preferred Sonoma Caterers. The numbers of guests guaranteed to the caterer will be reduced slightly as there was a great deal of food remaining last year.

New Business: After discussion: **Motion to purchase one new umbrella for the front and a second one if it is determined that it is needed. Seconded and approved.**

Officer Reports

*Presiden*t: Janet welcomed Library Director Ann Hammond to her first meeting with the SVFOL. Janet read a letter from the Director thanking us for our support and explaining the availability of Measure Y monies to provide books for the children’s reading programs. The Board affirmed that if additional funds were needed for the Valley Library Branch, FOL would allocate funds. The Director mentioned that the entire library system is getting geared up for major strategic planning in March

*Vice President:* See “unfinished business”.

*Secretary:* A new iteration of the 2020 contacts list was distributed and will be sent via e-mail to all on that list.

*Treasurer:* An up-dated report for December, showing income data that were not available by the January meeting, and the report for January had been distributed. **By consensus, the Board approved the usual annual expenditure of approximately $1,500 for CPA tax-related support.**

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*Member-at-Large and Publicity Chair*: Karen has contacted staff at the *Kenwood Press*, and the newspaper will now carry library news and information. The next books sale will appear in the well-read paper.

*Interim Branch Manager*: Thanks to FOL members for supporting the Lisa See event and reception. The event was very well attended.

The branch has not been fully staffed since Diana came here. Anna is now a Library Associate, but only ½ time, so now we have a full-time position open for a Library Specialist.

We are on track to serve over 350 people with AARP tax assistance. All of February is booked; we expect about 60 people to come in for appointments tomorrow; we will be hosting the program through to April 14.

We have expended the $2,000 allotted for children’s books during the first quarter, and therefore the additional $2,000 approved by the FOL Board will be needed. [Susan will provide a check to the library by next Tuesday.]

Ms. Clare Day is March 2, when the City Council will recognize Clare O’Brien’s amazing work as the children’s librarian. The Library will host a reception immediately following the Council presentation. By consensus, the Board allocated $200 to provide for the reception.

Committee Reports:

*Book Sales*: No report [Next book sale: Feb. 19-22]

*Book Clubs*:

 *Classical Reflections*: Classical Reflections is going well. We have arranged our schedule so that we meet on the 2nd or 3rd Tuesdays.

 *Mystery*: No report

*Newsletter*: No report

*Membership*: Kathleen will begin attending meetings in April when current work obligations will not interfere.

*Meeting adjourned at 3:35. Next meeting: Feb. 13, 2020, 3 p.m.*

Following the meeting, the LAB met. Reports by the Commissioner, the Library Director, Branch Manager, and City Council Representative, Madolyn.Agrimonti, were presented and are recorded in the LAB minutes. Briefly:

Commissioner: Budget time is coming up and discussions include expanding services and increasing outreach programs including the bookmobile. Technology, too, is expanding under Measure Y income, with a growing number of devices available both internally and to library patrons. Our goal is to provide support to each branch. Tom requested feedback regarding library hours.

Director: Ann shared Library newsletter, available on the library website. Many open houses regarding library services will occur in March, both in branches and in community gathering places.

Branch Manager: Several programs are coming up in the branch, including Emergency Preparedness workshops in April and a Master Gardeners’ workshop. New technology at the branch includes a projector and new speakers and assisted hearing devices for both hand-holding and hearing aid connection. Diana will look into those devices for the main library space.

City Council: Madolyn will attend FOL meetings as well as LAB whenever possible. She reported on the public event regarding homelessness in Sonoma. The safe parking program and an increase in homeless people have caused issues, particularly with the proximity to the Field of Dreams. Rules which have not been followed, including required signage and removing cars parked after 1 p.m. will be acted upon. “Children are seeing things that they don’t need to see.” By law cities may not displace homeless people unless an alternate place to be is offered to them.

Marge Thomas, FOL Secretary