

**FRIENDS OF THE L.D. FARGO PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
October 21, 2024 @ 9am in Library Hall**

I—Call to Order: President Vicki Wickliffe called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Present were Barb Becker, Patty Hoggatt, Kathleen O’Hearn, Karie Pollard, Anne Werner and Gerard Saylor. Valerie Krejcie joined as a guest. Beckie Kane, Beth Naughton, and Carol Burrows were absent.

A. Minutes of Board Meeting September 23, 2024: Correction was made to Section III. F. and addition was made to Section IV (A): Charlie’s family generously donated Charlie’s library of books to the Friends. Anne received the books, will sort and place them on the used book shelf at the Lake Mills Market. Motion to approve the minutes as amended made by Anne, seconded by Barb, motion passed.

B. Treasurer’s Report: Karie reported the following:

LM Market book sales:	\$ 31.50
Library book sales:	48.85
Memberships:	135.00
Memorials for Charlie Roy:	95.00
Culver’s fundraiser:	422.29 (\$349. 97 from sales, \$72.32 from tips)
Ending balance 10/21/24:	\$1,937.92*

*includes a \$500.00 donation earmarked for library expansion.

Karie mentioned that there were two outstanding checks: \$35 for Storywalk from March 2024 and \$60 from 2021 payable to the Chamber (never picked up) which she will void.

C. Library Director’s Report: Gerard reported that the library did not get the grant from the State of Wisconsin. He presented a sketch of possible architectural changes to Phase I of the expansion which brings the cost to just over \$4 million. Greater Watertown Regional Health Foundation is still a possibility, hoping for \$500,000. The Fundraising Committee feels that it can generate \$1 million to \$2 million from the community and receive \$1 million to \$2 million from the City. The committee is looking into further applications. Barb asked if a “thermometer” would be placed in front of the library to show fundraising progress.

Programming at the library is going well. Gerard said Memory Café numbers are not too great and changes might be made. Adult programming can be difficult to schedule in evenings and on weekends due to library hours. Having more staff would be helpful.

II—Old Business

A. Welcome Packet for New Library Card Holders – Tabled until November’s meeting.

B. Results for Election of Officers: Vicki reported that 16 members voted, and all officers on the ballot were re-elected.

C. Author Visit at the Middle School:

1. The Friends contributed \$460 toward this event.
2. Ethan invited FOL board members to attend the author visit today.

D. National Friends of Libraries Week October 20-26, 2024: Beckie purchased canvas tote bags and gave them to Becca. The cost of the bags exceeded the \$45 approved, so a motion was made by Karie, seconded by Barb to spend up to \$50. Motion passed.

Beckie prepared the drawing jar and tickets, which are now at the circulation desk. Barb brought the puzzle with the picture of the library. Karie will reimburse Barb for the cost of the puzzle. The two tickets for the Saturday, November 9, show of the high school musical, "Something Rotten" will be at the "will call" window. Karie agreed to draw the winning ticket next Monday, October 28, and notify the winner.

- E. Report for September Library Board Meeting: Anne attended the meeting and reported that the "Kick-Off Campaign" meeting was held October 7, the same day as the library's 122nd anniversary.
- F. Children's Holiday Book Tree: Kathleen reported that the Head Start teacher would like to have this event again. The date for the party (to be held at the Senior Center) is Wednesday, December 18. Discussion followed about the number of tags one person/family may take since we ran out of tags so quickly last year. We decided not to put a limit on the number of tags; instead we will not advertise it in the Leader and will make "classroom" book tags to hang when the initial tags are gone. This way anyone who wants to purchase a book for Head Start will be able to. Deadline to bring the gift books to the library is December 13.
- G. Culver's Fundraiser Results: See Treasurer's Report for the amount raised. Total was similar to the amount raised at the May fundraiser. Vicki mentioned that the labels on the tip jars should be smaller so that people can see there's money in the jars. The brochures were not very conspicuous; perhaps we can distribute them somehow at our next fundraiser. The next time we should have buttons that we can pin on our aprons to identify the Friends as the fundraising recipient. Some suggested placing the feather flags in a different spot. Vicki said the two shifts worked well.

III—New Business

- A. FOL Notecards: Vicki had emailed the Board with the nighttime photo of the library taken by Cory Nelson who had given us permission to use it however we wish. Vicki suggested getting 50 cards printed. Motion by Anne to have 50 cards printed, seconded by Barb, motion passed.
- B. Other: Anne conveyed that Beckie would like to know if we can get volunteers to put up and decorate the Christmas tree since the tree is heavy and a ladder is required. Volunteers would also be needed to take the tree down and return it to the storage closet in the lower level. She said some of the pre-strung lights don't work any longer. A tentative date for decorating is Monday, December 2, at 4pm. Gerard sent a message to Tonya Olson about recruiting high school students. Vicki said she will send an email to the membership.

IV—Announcements and Miscellaneous:

Anne will buy candy this week for Witches Night Out (October 30). She said that she and her daughter and granddaughter will dress in costume and keep the "cauldrons" filled with candy, so we won't need any students to help this year. They will also keep count of trick-or-treaters .

Vicki will attend the Bridges coffee hour on Thursday.

Kathleen said somebody asked her about Dolly Parton's Imagination Library and if we were going to implement this. Gerard said that the program is already funded by the Greater Watertown Community Health Foundation.

Valerie asked about the Garden Tour. Vicki reported that the Arts Alliance is thinking they will no longer do an Arts Festival in July, but have an event in the fall instead. Vicki said that some potential gardeners have told her that they are ready to be included in a garden tour. We will discuss this after the first of the year.

V—Next Meeting Date: November 18, 2024 @ 9 am

VI—Meeting adjourned at 10:45am.

Minutes prepared by Anne Werner