

**FRIENDS OF THE L.D. FARGO PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
January 20, 2025 @ 9am in Library Hall**

I—Call to Order: President Vicki Wickliffe called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM. Present were Barb Becker, Kathleen O’Hearn, Karie Pollard, Beckie Kane, Anne Werner, Patty Hoggatt and Beth Naughton. Absent was Carol Burrows. Jane Reidl attended as a guest.

- A. Approval of Minutes for November 18, 2024 Board Meeting: Correct the date of the next meeting to 1/20/25. Karie moved to approve the amended minutes, Kathleen seconded, and motion passed.

B. Treasurer’s Report:

November 18, 2024 – December 31, 2024  
Checking account starting balance – \$1907.10  
Library used book sales – \$91.05  
Market used book sales - \$41.25  
Notecards - \$5.00  
Memberships - \$595.00  
Expenses - \$152.28  
Ending balance - \$2487.12

January 1, 2025 – January 20, 2025  
Checking account starting balance - \$2487.12  
Corporate Memberships - \$1525.00  
Memberships - \$185.00  
Library used book sales - \$35.00  
Market used book sales \$27.25  
Ending balance - \$4259.37

Annual Report 2024

Disbursements - \$5860.00  
Other Expenses - \$1771.00  
Receipts - \$6288.00

C. Library Director’s Report:

- a. The Lake Mills City Council approved the Library Expansion Advisory Referendum for the April 1<sup>st</sup> election. The next step is to work on getting information to the community on why the expansion is needed and a FAQ sheet to be distributed.
- b. Capital Campaign – transitioning to information dissemination. Once the city gives its support, then they can push for corporate donations. It is likely that the money won’t be needed until 2027 or 2028.
- c. The 100 Extraordinary Women Campaign has already raised \$100,000, which was the original goal. Now the team is hoping to raise over \$200,000.
- d. Will the FOL make a pledge? See III.F below.
- e. On 1/31 Gerard, Becca, and Jim will be presenting to the Greater Watertown Health Foundation, seeking a donation of \$1million.
- f. LMACF is willing to make a donation as well.
- g. There is a Library Board Meeting today, January 20, 2025 at 4:45 PM. Rick Mason from the LMACF plans to attend the meeting.
- h. Memory Café is this week, Book Club is going well, Storytime continues to be popular.
- i. The library is part of a Community Read with the Lake Mills School District and Daydream Believer Books – The Anxious Generation.

## II—Old Business

### A. Reports

1. Children's Holiday Book Tree – Kathleen reported that the event was successful. The extra tags for classroom donations were a great idea. An anonymous donor donated an additional book for each child.
2. Library Holiday Decorating – Lots of student help and it looked beautiful. Many compliments on how gorgeous the library looked for the holiday season. There were also a good number of students who helped take the decorations down.
3. Annual Drive for Corporate Sponsors- Raised \$1525.00. The largest donation, \$200.00, was from Jensen Plumbing. The total raised was down from last year's \$2400. Anne will wait until the end of the month and then contact the LM Leader regarding the cost for publishing the thank you to sponsors.

B. Welcome Packet for New Library Card Holders – Nothing new – will revisit next month.

C. Garden Tour 2025 – The six-person committee met 1/15/25. Vicki sent letters to 10 prospective garden tour participants. Four people said yes, one said no, two said maybe next year, and three did not respond. It was suggested to include several volunteer gardens downtown– like the one in front of the library. Wendy Butler Berns is interested in being on the tour and suggested Quilts in the Garden in her garden. The committee discussed having plein air artists painting at other gardens. The committee thinks that proceeds should go towards the library expansion and that we should change from donations to tickets – possibly \$10.00 each. Knowing how the funds will be used may encourage more people to attend. Several items have been offered for a drawing: quilt, appetizers and cocktails in a member's garden, and possibly a sculpture by a local artist. Drawing entries must have a “suggested donation” rather than a set price. Potential date is Saturday, July 19, 2025. The Board gave the committee the “go ahead” to proceed.

D. 501 (c) (3) status – Vicki and Beth met with Karen Reimer from Badger Bank. Karen informed us that the FOL has 501 (c) (3) status under the umbrella of the LMACF and it is not necessary for the FOL to set up its own 501 (c) (3). If a donor wants a tax deductible donation letter, we just have to deposit the donation to our account under the LMACF and the foundation will send the letter if/when requested. We need to update the corporate sponsor brochure to reflect the tax implications. Karen Reimer will be happy to review the language for us.

## III—New Business

A. Historical Society Presentation on History of the Library – March 17, 2025 at 6PM – Robin Untz will be presenting this information and suggested via email how the FOL might be involved.. We decided that the FOL should have a membership table and help with refreshments.

B. Membership Renewal to Legendary Lake Mills - \$100.00 for non-profit members. Beth motioned to approve and Barb seconded the motion. Motion approved.

C. Knickerbocker Trivia Team – We will not have a team this year.

D. Teen Theater—We received a request for \$491.00 for the Teen Theater program to cover the script rental and an additional request for \$300.00 for props and costumes. The play is Cinderella or The Story of Bigfoot. Last year the FOL contributed \$383.50 for the teen theater. Barb motioned to approve \$600.00 towards the expenses and Beth seconded. Motion approved.

E. FOL Scholarship – Kathleen sent the scholarship application to Lake Mills High School and Lakeside Lutheran High School. Due date of applications has been moved earlier to April 1, 2025.

- F. FOL Donation Pledge – Gerard requested a building project donation or pledge from the Friends. He said that the Friends involvement and endorsement of the project could go a long way in convincing donors to give. Vicki noted that the FOL donated \$40,000 for the library’s 2013 renovation and that the current balance with the LMACF is approximately \$50,000. Beth motioned to approve a minimum of \$40,000 toward this expansion project and Barb seconded. Motion approved.
- G. February is Library Lovers Month – We agreed to post on the Facebook page and submit an article to the Leader and mention the expansion and referendum.
- H. Memorials for Charlie Roy - \$195.00 donation – we will discuss this in the future.
- I. Other – After the November meeting the board voted unanimously via e-mail to cancel the safe deposit box.

IV—Announcements and Miscellaneous

- A. We received a thank you from Ethan Floerke for our donation to the middle school author visit.
- B. Beth will attend the Library Board Meeting tonight.
- C. LMACF put the \$100,000 donation from the EMS in our account for now.

V—Next Meeting Date: **February 17, 2025 @ 9 AM**

VI—Adjournment @ 10:48 AM

Minutes prepared by Beth Naughton, Secretary

*Minutes are subject to correction/approval at the February 2025 meeting.*