

**FRIENDS OF THE L.D. FARGO PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JANUARY 19, 2026 @ 9AM IN LIBRARY HALL**

I. Call to Order: President Vicki Wickliffe called the meeting to order at 9am. Present were Barb Becker, Carol Burrows, Barb Cramer, Patty Hoggatt, Beckie Kane, Beth Naughton, Kathleen O'Hearn, Anne Werner and Gerard Saylor. Also present was Karie Pollard.

A. Approval of November 17, 2025, board meeting minutes: Vicki made a correction to delete "A motion was made to approve, seconded, passed." Beckie made a motion to approve the corrected minutes, seconded by Kathleen. Motion passed.

B. Treasurer's report: Barb C. renewed a CD on 12/22/25 at 3.92%, maturing on 10/21/26. She presented copies of the 2025 Annual Report as well as copies of monthly Treasurer's Report for period ending 12/31/25, and 01/19/26 which had an ending balance of \$8,275.57.

C. Library Director's report: Gerard said fundraising has reached 71.5% of its goal. He will report to the City Council meeting in February. The expansion committee is exploring off-site locations to operate during the 9-12 month construction period. The James J Chocolate building is a possibility. Vicki suggested the vacant Lake Mills Cleaners. Karie said Marilyn has organized a jigsaw puzzle tournament for Thursday, Jan. 29, 6-8pm.

II. Old Business

A. Library Online Store: Discussion was had about products to sell including two sizes of aluminum water bottles, tee shirts and canvas book bags. After viewing bags Vicki had brought, we decided on two sizes of book bags with square bottoms, a 14 x 15 and a larger one to accommodate children's picture books. We need to decide on a logo. Beth reminded us that products are made on demand, and that 6 items or less are made at no cost to us.

B. Reports

1. Library Holiday Decorating: Beckie reported that we had 3 high school volunteers plus library page, Emmett, for decorating. Beckie would like to dispose of the current tree due to its age and broken light strings. Gerard can dispose. Decorating for 2026 is unknown because of the expansion.

2. Children's Holiday Book Party: Kathleen reported another successful and joyous party for the Head Start class. The children all received an additional book thanks to a generous donor. She said Head Start did get funding for another year! Next year, the board will take the tags for Spanish-speaking books as some patrons stated they had difficulty finding the books on certain subjects.

3. 2026 Corporate Sponsor Drive: Beth reported that \$2,150 has been received from 18 corporate sponsors, and that thank you's have been sent.

C. Funding for Read, Rhythm and Rhyme: Vicki said Becca told her this event has not been as popular as in the past, so it is on hold until summer. Funds approved for Jan-April 2026 will be used.

D. Review of FOL Bylaws: Vicki stated the bylaws provide that they should be reviewed every two years or as necessary. We last reviewed in 2023. Tabled for future meeting.

E. FOL Audit: Vicki will send an email to the membership asking for a volunteer to do this.

III. New Business

A. Membership Renewal for Legendary Lake Mills: Beth motioned to renew our membership at \$100, seconded by Barb B., motion passed. Barb C. will write a check.

B. FOL Scholarship: Kathleen has sent necessary info to LMHS and Lakeside Lutheran and is preparing to place an article in the Leader. This year's deadline is March 30. Gerard will put on library website and social media; Beckie will put on FOL website and FB Community Network.

C. Website "Give Butter" and Other Funds: Anne will report next month.

D. February is Library Lovers Month: Beckie will prepare a display to place in the library where patrons can write down (or draw) on paper hearts as to why they love the library. Those will be attached to the display.

E. FOL Meeting Times: Discussion was had about earlier meeting times for working people. A staff member is usually there at 8am. Vicki will add this question to her email to the membership.

F. Library Christmas Tree in 2026: See II.B.1.

G. Arbor Day Activity: Beckie will look into availability of seedlings and coordinate with Becca for a children's activity.

IV. Announcements and Miscellaneous: Beth asked if FOL was going to sponsor another pie sale for Pi day. Discussion was had about the possibility of selling "by the slice". Beckie mentioned "pizza pies." Vicki will add this to her membership email. Vicki read a "thank you" from Raina for participating in Witches Night Out.

V. Next meeting date: February 16 at 9am

VI. Adjournment at 10:40am

Minutes prepared by Anne Werner

Minutes are subject to correction/approval at the February 2026 meeting.