

Friends of Baker County Library

Regular Meeting - Minutes

February 14, 2014

Baker County Public Library, Archive Room

Present: Kata Bulinski, Mary Oman, Barbara Haynes, Bill and Jenny Albright, Ambo Daugherty, Cristina Simoni, Perry Stokes, Barbara Prowell, Diana Pearson, Linda Collier from the Halfway Friends of the Library.

Meeting was **Called to Order at 10:30 am** by Kata Bulinski.

Minutes: January minutes were accepted as submitted and read by email.

Treasurer's Report: Copies of the January Treasurer's report were reviewed. There were deposits of \$385, including \$285 from bookshop sales. Expenses pending are \$950, leaving a balance of \$13,244. The report was approved as presented.

Bookshop discussion: Diana explained that there is one volunteer who puts book that are designated for sale into the bookshop. Bill and Jenny Albright will consider helping with that process.

Old Business:

Library Strategic Plan: This is a list of ideas for library projects for the next 2 – 3 years brainstormed by the library staff. Perry stressed the importance for more ideas from the community and the Friends of the Library. A comprehensive list is needed by the end of February for presentation at the March board meeting. There is a comment form on the website, but the current idea list will need to be placed in an easily accessible place to encourage comment. A press release asking for input is also needed. Discussion included the need for more community programs using the library, the possibility of adult literacy programs, ESL classes, and the need for tutors. (Requests for those programs are limited at the present time.)

Budget Plan: The timeline and process were reviewed. The budget needs to be completed by June. A draft budget will be discussed at the April meeting, and May and June meetings can be used for finalizing the budget. Nancy has provided lists of expenses in the past to help with budget planning. Perry will also provide templates.

Oregon Reads: The March meeting is scheduled for planning. There will be 1 to 3 speakers, and programs for the community and branch libraries, including books for book club reading. Events and programs will take place during September and October, 2014. Information is available at www.oregonreads2014.com.

Volunteer Hour Tally: tabled

Proposals Update: Battle of the Books – Semifinal competitions to choose the best team for each level (grades 3 to 5, and grades 6 to 8) will happen Sat., Feb. 22, at 10 am and 11 am. Winning teams will participate in Regional competitions at EOU on March 8th. Friends of the Library has provided funds for T-shirts for team members.

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Halfway Branch Library Garden Project: The Friends have applied for three grants, but one is no longer available outside of Portland. The other two, MiracleGro and US Bank, are still pending. Linda Collier shared photos of the library garden project.

Baby Shower: Melissa provided an update of the Baby Shower. Ten families attended, including five moms and infants from Recovery Village. Melissa considered the shower a success as it provided a good opportunity to discuss language development and early literacy. She is considering implementing a Baby Time program at Recovery Village (similar to story time, but focusing on language development activities). She shared bags which she had given participants, containing literacy information and board books. Perry discussed the Ready to Learn pilot program where children using the library receive points which are changed to money deposited to an Oregon College Savings account when the child turns six. Data on the connection between library use and the development of early literacy skills can be gathered as the children enter school. Kata volunteered to contact the paper about an interview/story to publicize the program. Melissa also explained that the Building Healthy Families Gift baskets, given to families of infants born at the hospital, contain information about Library programs and a board book.

Book Sale Cookbook: tabled

New Business:

Volunteer Applications: A new form was passed out by Diana. It is being reviewed by the Special Districts committee. Some corrections were noted.

Volunteer Policy: Perry passed out copies of the plan adopted by the board in 2013. It is currently being updated. The volunteer age will be lowered from 14 to 12 for working without direct parent supervision, provided a liability waiver is signed by the parent/guardian. The plan does require that volunteers perform as employees in regard to mandatory reporting requirements. Volunteer training in mandatory reporting will need to be done.

Delivery to Shut-ins: Two requests have been received for home delivery of library materials. The possibility of volunteers doing the job was discussed. Getting materials returned to the library could be a problem.

Other:

Spring clean-up is coming. It was the beginning of June last year. Planning for this will be on a future agenda.

Next Meeting:

It will be March 19 from 3:30-5:00 pm. This is a change back to the original scheduled date.