

**FRIENDS OF THE MODESTO LIBRARY  
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
VIA ZOOM  
3 MARCH 2021**

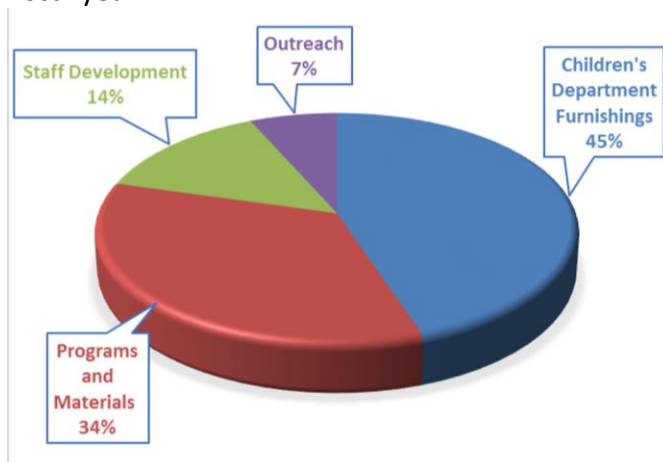
Zoom meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by President Denise Nordell.

Officers and Directors present were Anne Britton, Christine Brereton, Cande Brody, Ellen Dambrosio, Marilyn Drew, Jonaca Driscoll, Pat Glatke, Jean Haven, Maree Hawkins, Judy Herrero, Denise Nordell, Pam Pallios, Cathie Peck, Judy Pierce and Beverly Schlegel. Members and guests present were County Librarian Sarah Dentan as well as Judy Chamberlain, Carl Collins, Donna Flanders, Kathy Hackett, Thomas Kaps, Jane Manley, Diane Heaston Merenda, Mary Alice Metzler, Carrie Rasmussen, Julie Reuben, and speaker for the evening, Susan Rich.

**President's Report: Denise Nordell**

Slides highlighting the past year's activities accompanied the presentation.

- Last year, Friends of the Modesto Library pledged \$16,500 to the Modesto Library for the 2020-21 fiscal year.



- 2020 Accomplishments
  - Book Giveaways at COVID info event
  - Virtual Scholastic Book Fairs
  - Books donated to King Kennedy Ctr.
  - December Barnes & Noble Bookfair [netted \$2,300 for FOML]
  - Initial planning for Modesto Library 50th Birthday
  - Scholastic Book Fairs estimated \$5500 worth of Scholastic Dollars credit or books used for library and community literacy projects.
  - New Fish Tank installed
- March 20: Shelter in Place begins and Library closes; Library and Friends cancelled events:
  - Día de los Niños/Libros

- Barnes & Noble Bookfairs
- In-person Children's programs
- Used Book Sale
- In-person Scholastic Book Fairs
- Looking ahead to 2021-2022
  - Focus on Membership
  - Expand and Diversify FOML Board of Directors
  - Resume fundraising events as COVID restrictions are lifted
  - Celebrate Modesto Library's 50th Birthday
- Financial support remained strong, thanks to membership renewals and generous contributions.

### Librarian's Report:

- Sarah Dentan, County Librarian, thanked the Friends for their support and expressed her appreciation for the strong advocacy for the library by FOML. She outlined some of the moves to digital services the library instituted as COVID-19 locked down the physical libraries. She noted that new digital programs for adults were possible with FOML financial support as well as STEAM kits for children, art kits for adults and purchase of the new "truck" bookcase for the toddler area of the library. Especially significant is the expansion of training available to Modesto Library staff with FOML funding as many organizations moved conferences and webinars online. The money goes much farther without travel/housing costs.
- Library staff was lauded for their resilience and flexibility in 2020. New grant opportunities were developed, virtual programs from story times to trivia contests were initiated, and curbside outreach opportunities such as book giveaways at schools offering free lunches helped stay-at-home families.
- As the library moves from Purple to Red [and better] COVID-19 tiers, in-person services will be restored in line with state guidelines.
- Library projects manager Thomas Kaps, who attended the meeting, offered a brief update on the construction of the Modesto Library Maker Space. No estimate of its completion, but the walls are up!

**Minutes** of the 4 December 2020 meeting, as distributed to board members, were approved as corrected.

### Bylaws Revision: Maree Hawkins

Proposed changes to the Membership section of FOML bylaws were introduced at the December meeting.

- Section A. Membership shall be open to all individuals/families, **businesses, and organizations** who support the purposes of the organization ~~and who reside in the Modesto/Stanslaus area.~~
- Section B. Members in this organization believe that libraries should provide books and other materials presenting all points of view concerning the problems and issues of our times; members must also believe that no library materials should be proscribed or removed from libraries because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.
- Section C. Each membership shall be entitled to one vote. ~~A family membership shall be entitled to two votes.~~
- Section D. Dues shall be payable annually on the first of ~~April~~ **January**. Delinquent members shall be dropped from membership ~~six (6)~~ **two (2)** months from the date dues are due.

**ACTIONS TAKEN: After review, a motion by Denise with a second from Judy Pierce was approved to adopt the revisions to the Membership sections A, C and D of Article III of the bylaws.**

### **Treasurer's Report: Jonaca Driscoll**

Quarterly report December 2020 through February 2021

Expenditures	\$ 5,929.27
Income	\$13,543.27
Current Assets	\$35,210.91

In addition, \$2,235 in Barnes & Noble gift cards from the December book fair are available for sale and will generate future income. Contact Jonaca to purchase gift cards [\$25 & \$50 denominations].

Overall, March 2020 through February 2021 finances show \$8,679.08 more income than expenses, a large portion due to the \$5,000 donation from Beard Land/M&E corporation received this last quarter. [Full reports available on request.]

**ACTION TAKEN: Quarterly distribution of \$4,700 to the library was approved on a motion by Anne and seconded by Christine.**

### **Election of Officers**

Ellen Dambrosio presented the slate of officers from the nomination committee which met in December.

President	Denise Nordell
Vice President	Beverly Schlegel
Treasurer	Jonaca Driscoll
Secretary	Anne Britton

**ACTION TAKEN: Motion to approve election of the nominees as presented was made by Ellen and seconded by Maree Hawkins. Passed unanimously.**

### **Guest Speaker: Susan Rich**

Ms. Rich presented an overview of the local *Imagination Library of Stanislaus County* program.

- It's an international book-giving program started by Dolly Parton
- Registered children receive a book a month USPS-mailed to their home
- There is no cost to the family or children
- Books are selected by early literacy experts and are specific to the month of the age of the child
- Children are eligible from birth to their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday

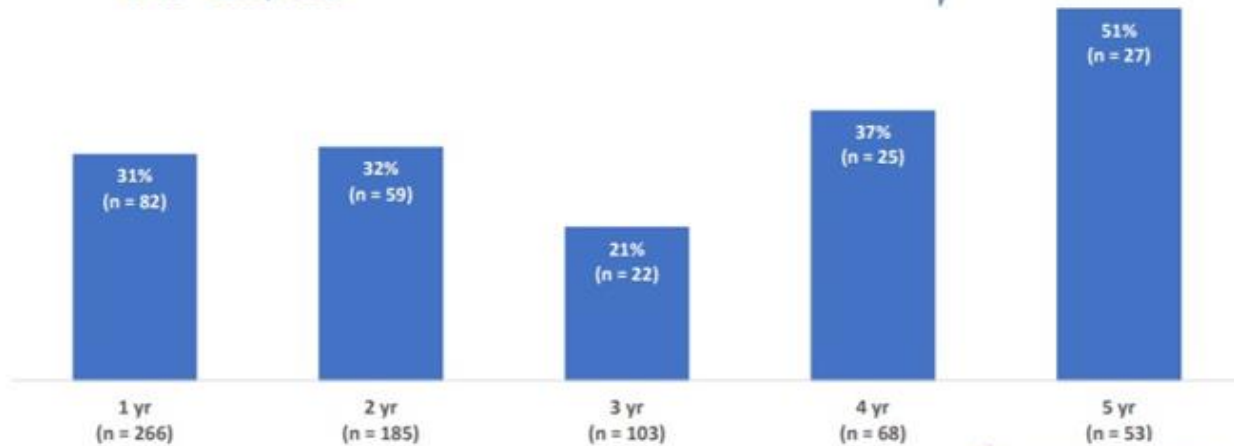
Interesting slides included one showing the impact on children who were in the program for all five years, birth to fifth birthday. When compared to the general population of five-year-olds, 51% of Imagination Library participants were ready for kindergarten versus just 32% overall.

ALL KINDERGARTNERS WHO SCORED "READY-TO-GO" ON THE KINDERGARTEN  
STUDENT ENTRANCE PROFILE (KSEP) BY YEARS OF  
IMAGINATION LIBRARY PARTICIPATION

**Total KSEP Ratings**

Score	Result
13-25	Immediate Follow-Up
26-37	Monthly Monitor
38-46	Quarterly Monitor
47-52	Ready-To-Go

**32%** (215) Overall  
"Ready-To-Go"  
Total Kindergarteners  
= 675



Data Set: All Kindergarteners in the StanislausREADS! portal with Imagination Library participation.

Source: Fall KSEP scores for students entering Kindergarten each year, StanislausREADS! data portal as of 1/8/2020.



Considering the startling statistic that 61% of low-income children have no reading material in the home, the importance of programs like Imagination Library to our community is significant.

*Imagination Library of Stanislaus County's* plans are to

- ✓ Find children as young as possible
- ✓ Register children when you already have the funds to take them to their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday
- ✓ Seek partnerships with those who interact with parents with young children

New funding sources are being sought. Kaiser Permanente foundation has earmarked funds to register newborns and at least one school district {Waterford} is using its funds cover registration for children as well. The *Imagination Library of Stanislaus County* will be able to provide 475 books to children in Modesto with the recent \$1,000 donation from FOML. Ms. Rich also thanked Pat Glatke for her personal donation and Cathie Peck for her long-time efforts with the program at Burbank School.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Submitted 2 June 2021

Anne Britton, Secretary