

**Friends of the Turlock Public Library
Board Meeting
Minutes
4 January 2012**

PRESENT: Brooks Judd, Carol Blomquist (Turlock Public Librarian, ex officio), Christine Nielsen, Cynthia Williams, Donna Lolli, Faye Gibbs, Gity Miller, Jackie Oyer, Michael Fuller, Pat Hickman and Pat Portwood.

GUESTS: Dieter Renning, Hanna Renning, Jayne Smith (Historian) and Sandy Mann.

I. CALL TO ORDER. President Pat Hickman called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM, just as the pro-tem secretary arrived.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 7, 2011 MEETING. Cynthia moved, Gity seconded that the minutes be approved. Passed unanimously.

III. REPORTS:

PRESIDENT'S REPORT. The minutes of the last meeting did not show the vote on helping the TPL retire the bear in the children's section. It passed with an e-vote, with 11 ayes, 2 no-responses. There was a second vote on 15 December about whether to give the bear to a library page (motion by Jeanne, second by Jackie). It also passed with 11 ayes and 2 no-responses.

Pat reported on the county-wide summer reading program: approximately 12,000 children participated. The gala with Mas Masumoto raised \$50,000 for the Foundation. This year will be the Stanislaus County Library's 100th anniversary. One of the goals of the Foundation is to launch an e-book collection. There are evidently many tickets left for the Verghese meet-the-author event and later presentation on January 17.

Once the book sale is over, the Board needs to think about a donation to Save Stanislaus Libraries.

Vanessa, Carol and Pat H. will present the County Library's report to the Turlock City Council on January 24, 2012. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM upstairs in City Hall. Pat will also ask for support of Save Stanislaus Libraries from the City Council.

There will be a meeting of the Community Coördinators' Council at 11:00 AM on February 11 at Coldwell Banker in Modesto (220A Standiford Avenue [corner of McHenry and Standiford, next to Target]. They are soliciting e-waste for a fundraiser. (If Board members have any e-waste, they can bring it to the February meeting, and Pat P. will schlep it to Modesto for us.) For more information about the event, contact Paul at 531-1942.

Donna Lolli recently visited the Vancouver (Washington) Public Library, which also has an in-library bookstore. She reports that ours is much better organized.

TREASURER'S REPORT. There was no treasurer's report since Jeanne was home sick. As soon as Jeanne prepares it, Pat H. will e-mail it to the Board members.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT. Michael reported that there are currently 198 new and renewing members and 54 life members, for a total of 252.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT. Susan Guest broke her wrist in a fall; she will be out of commission until 12 March.

The replacement bear for the children's room has arrived. The person who was willing to "adopt" the old one decided there wasn't enough room in a small apartment. During the Find-the-Grinch contest in December, 236 children received prizes. There will be a counting jar January 14 – 19.

The TPL would like to have Puppet Art Theater back in March for two performances on a Saturday. Carol asked for funds from the \$2000 grant we received. Since we had no idea how much money was still left, Michael moved and Cynthia seconded that we give the TPL funds to bring PAT back provided that FOTPL has sufficient funds. Passed unanimously.

Circulation statistics were down 7.1% in November. The TPL is working on getting e-books for customers; at the moment the contract is with the County, so there might be quite a wait.

Carol has been in touch with Cherry West of the *Turlock Journal* about microfilming back issues. There is a question whether the publisher will grant permission for ProQuest to keep the master of the copied issues of the *Journal*. To date, Carol has heard nothing. If ProQuest is not allowed to keep the master, the cost to us may be greater, but how much so is up in the air.

She asked FOTPL to consider carrying forward part of this year's equipment budget specifically toward the purchase of a new book bin (approximate cost \$4500) for the TPL. The situation is dire, and patrons complain that they can't return materials when the library is not open. In addition, librarians have to make special trips to the facility simply to empty the book bins so that materials are not damaged when people try to cram books into an already full bin.

CAMPAIGN 2012. Pat P. reported on the campaign. We await the new year. We were reminded of Dr. Abraham Verghese's presentation at the Rogers Theater at the Gallo Center on January 17. Tickets are still available for the meet-the-author pre-show reception.

BOOK BIN. The Book Bin featured holiday books throughout December. There was no report on how much was made.

FRIENDS' BOOKSTORE COMMITTEE REPORT. Jackie reported that the Friends' Bookstore made about \$90 the week the new pricing went in to effect. The last two weeks brought in between \$40 and \$45. We still need volunteers for Saturday. (Gity passed a name on to Jackie.) We will distribute applications for volunteers at the annual book sale.

PUBLIC INFORMATION & ADVOCACY REPORT. Brooks followed up on a suggestion from Gity to contact Staples; the result: six \$25 gift cards to be used by FOTPL to be used for printing. He will give Jodie a card and some chocolate chip cookies. Brooks will contact Raley's to reserve space for a table to support Save Stanislaus Libraries, hopefully in mid-May for a Saturday and Sunday. Other possibilities: SaveMart, Costless, Village Fresh, and Safeway.

IV. OLD BUSINESS.

COMMITTEE REPORT ON RESPONSIBILITIES, ETC.: There was no report because nothing new had been done.

BOOK SALE: Hanna reported that the Book Sale Committee had met on 16 November 2011 and will produce a report of the job description for the Committee on Responsibilities. She had posters for anyone who wanted a few to put up around town. Susan will print bookmarks. Brooks will consult with Dieter on publicity. We'll rehire Teen Challenge again as workers; they should report to the church. Sandy decided that we'll leave High Power for the church at 1:00 pm on Thursday. Peggy Schmurr is in charge of tables; Al Opdyke is in charge of VIP (Volunteers In Patrol). The secretary came up for breath.

And valiantly scribbled on. Christine mentioned eliminating the half-price sale books from the Book Bin and Friends' Bookstore: they'll sell for \$1. The collectables will still be there, separate from the rest of the sale, and there will be a special cashier there. Dollies will be lent by Sandy, Joan, Susan and the Rennings. Sandy will be in charge of the trucks to haul the books in. Donna Oppalt is in charge of sending the leftovers to Ghana, which does not like to see religious books in what enters the country. Pat P. will have a table for SSL for Members Only Night ... but will check with the Methodist church first to see if it's OK with them; Pat also reported that four people have called in response to the announcement in the newsletter.

The sale starts at 4:00 PM on Thursday, 26 January. Michael will be ready to accept memberships by 3:30. Memberships will also be available at the cashier's on Friday and Saturday.

- V. NEW BUSINESS.** Michael asked for clarification as to how much a lifetime membership costs: is it \$150 for a family or \$150 for an individual? The consensus was that it was \$150 per individual. Hanna suggested that we might wish to consider raising the cost: the \$150 figure was arrived at when it still represented a somewhat hefty amount of money.
- VI. ADJOURNMENT.** Shortly before 8:15 Michael moved and Gity seconded that the meeting be adjourned. [Could this be an all-time record?] Unanimous. Our next meeting will begin at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, 1 February 2012 at the Turlock Public Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Fuller
sitting in for Dorothy Finnegan