

**FRIENDS OF THE MODESTO LIBRARY
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
6 MARCH 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by President Denise Nordell.

Officers and Directors present were Anne Britton, Christine Brereton, Cande Brody, Ellen Dambrosio, Marilyn Drew, Pat Glattke, Maree Hawkins, Judy Herrero, Denise Nordell, Pam Pallios, Cathie Peck, Julie Saugstad, Beverly Schlegel and Isa Wiechmann. Total attendance was over 40, including members and guests, library staff members Marco Sepulveda and Bryan Sontag, and guest speaker County Librarian Sarah Dentan.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Denise Nordell

Annual report was distributed to members and guest as they arrived [see addenda] and review highlights slides ran before the meeting was gavelled to order.

OFFICER ELECTION:

Nominating committee chair Beverly Schlegel presented the following slate of officers:

President	Denise Nordell
Vice President	Beverly Schlegel
Treasurer	Julie Saugstad
Secretary	Anne Britton

There were no nominations from the floor and the nominees were elected for the 2024/2025 fiscal year by acclamation.

50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Modesto Library “Friends” first formed 50 years ago. *Friends for 50 Years: The Story of Us*, researched and written by Maree Hawkins, was presented as a readers theater piece. Six former presidents were in the audience, including Peggy (Fields) Gardiner, one of the 1974 originators.

Roots of the Forest, a poetic tribute written for the 50th anniversary by Stella Beratlis was read by Gillian Wegener – both recent Modesto Poet Laureates. [See addenda]

MODESTO LIBRARY RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATE: Sarah Dentan

Renovation of the Modesto Library requires major overhaul of some infrastructure. Improvements will involve bringing the library to Americans with Disabilities Act compliance as well as several structural changes. Before other construction can begin, areas containing currently sealed asbestos must have it removed, which requires totally vacating the building. Asbestos remediation together with renovations mean that an 18-month closure of the library is likely necessary. Closure is not expected before early 2025.

Public money and grants will fund the multi-million-dollar project for renovations that include:

- Bathrooms remodel for ADA compliance, both public and staff
- LearningQuest classroom beside Maker Space (new)
- Quiet reading room, location still being finalized
- Story Hour Room leveling to remove deep steps
- Elevators
- HVAC controls
- Soft seating and smaller tables for more comfort

Temporary accommodations/plans during the closure:

- Staff and majority of collection will relocate to the Salida Library
- Downtown service center location TBA to host a small collection and be available to pick up books reserved by readers
- Downtown story times in places yet TBA
- Staff layoffs are not planned

Facilities Manager Marco Sepulveda was and is available to answer questions on the renovations.

A LIFELONG LEGACY – FOML CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



*Because the Modesto Library is over 50 years old there are much-needed repairs and upgrades including asbestos removal, lighting and ceiling replacement, elevator and HVAC remedies, new carpet, and improved tech infrastructure.

*State and county funding, along with grants and reserve monies totaling over \$18M, will pay for the project basics: safety and accessibility, improved lighting and updated cabling and wireless networks.

* Friends of the Modesto Library is undertaking the campaign because additional funding will be required for important, desirable library enhanced amenities such as comfortable seating, welcoming public areas, and modern fixtures.

\$3M campaign target will provide the margin that will elevate the project to excellence!

The “Legacy” campaign will ensure enhancements in:

- AV Improvements
 - ✓ Basement Conference Room
 - ✓ New classroom space
 - ✓ New Quiet Reading room
 - ✓ Renovated Early Childhood Room
 - ✓ Auditorium upgrades
- Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment for
 - ✓ Main floor
 - ✓ Children’s area
- Hanging system for art displays
- Auditorium finishes

The Campaign Operations Committee includes FOML board members Denise Nordell, Pat Glatke, and Julie Saugstad along with Donna Flanders, Carrie Rasmusson, Jane Manley, Marian Martino, and consultant Amy Wolfe.

The Campaign Fundraising Committee is chaired by Lynn Dickerson, Kay Menges and Britta Foster. Committee members include Kenni Friedman, Stacey Filippi, and Danielle Lau.

The public phase of the campaign (Phase II) will begin in late spring. Recruiting is in process for:

- *Fundraising* (leads Jane Manley and Jennifer Pereira + 10)
- *Public Events* (lead needed + 5)
- *Publicity and Marketing*, (lead Jodi Omlin + 2)
- *Donor Intake and Management* (leads Julie Saugstad and Donna Flanders + 2)

Friends throughout the community will be approached beginning summer 2024 to support the vision of a new, improved Modesto Library through their donations.

MINUTES: December 2023 meeting minutes, previously distributed, were accepted as presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Julie Saugstad

Current Total Assets - \$66,137

Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activity - Actual v Annual Budget for July 2023-January 2024 were accepted on a voice vote. [See addenda]

This figure does not reflect the **\$38,350.45 CrabFest '24** money deposited to FOML from the proceeds. Needless to say, the current account balance is strong.

ACTION TAKEN: On a motion from Judy Herrero seconded by Ellen the report was accepted by a unanimous voice vote.

Julie also reported that an agency fund account will be established for FOML with Stanislaus Community Foundation to hold some of the donations for the *A Life-Long Legacy* Capital Campaign.

Quarterly Funding Allocation

The scheduled current year quarterly distribution to the library is \$3,600 and includes staff professional development training, Adult, Maker Space and Children's programming expenses and 6 folding tables.

ACTION TAKEN: The scheduled allocation of \$3,600 distribution to the library was approved on a motion by Anne with a second from Pat.

Budget Items Request from Library to FOML for July-December 2024

Because of uncertainty on the timing of the renovation closure, only a half year of requests have been presented by the library at this time. Brian Sontag, representing Chris Moreno who was not able to attend, presented the list with notation of how each relates to the library's strategic priorities. Proposed Modesto Library items totaling \$11,650 for the first two quarters of 2024/2025 budget year was presented to the board for review and discussion for adoption at the June meeting. [See addenda.]

Life-Long Legacy Capital Campaign Update

Campaign consultant Amy Wolfe outlined the campaign budget calendar and answered questions. Largest expenses incur early on for graphic design and Amy's services. Later expenses, like donor recognition signage and the celebration after completion, will be in a future fiscal year/s. Questions were covered and the timeline explained. It was understood that after Phase I FOML's expectation is to generate half – \$1.5 million – in Phase II of the total \$3 million targeted by the campaign.

Given that expenses and timing in the nearly \$51,000 campaign budget are estimates, concern was noted about approving it in total.

ACTION TAKEN: A motion by Anne and seconded by Isa was made to accept the budget as presented but not to exceed new expenditures in excess of 25% of the amounts presented without board approval. Passed unanimously.

Denise reiterated the five area where FOML will be working and where volunteers are being recruited:

- Fundraising (leads Jane Manley and Jennifer Pereira + 10),
- Public Events (lead needed + 5)
- Publicity and Marketing, (lead Jody Omlin + 2)
- Donor Intake (leads Julie Saugstad and Donna Flanders + 2)
- Donor Management

Those interested joining the effort should contact Denise.

Announcements

April 20 – Modesto Library Día De Los Niños/Libros

May 4 – Used Book Sale

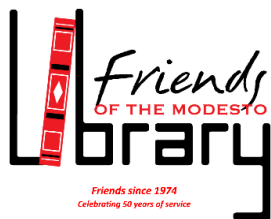
Next Scheduled Meeting – June 5

Adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Anne Britton

June 5, 2024

Anne Britton, Secretary



ANNUAL REPORT

March 2024

Fundraising

- May 2023 Used Book Sale - \$3,700 profit; next sale is May 4.
- Scholastic May and November Sales: \$6,055 in book credits; \$1,994 in books to local youth charities + \$1,994 Scholastic match
- Barnes & Noble December Bookfair earned \$2,690
- Feb. 10 CrabFest '24 resulted in \$38,350 profit, thanks to Dallas & Garrad Marsh/McHenry Bowl

FOML Gifts to the Library

- \$14,600 in Library Funding Requests approved: Circulation materials; Juvenile Justice Center Book Club; Día de los Niños/Libros; staff development; Family Winter Ball; Adult programming; Children's programming & crafts; Maker Space programming & supplies; folding tables; button maker kits; Meta Quest VR headsets; Pat Glattke appreciation.
- Imagination Library: FOML funding matched by Modesto Rotary to enroll 152 children. FOML volunteers assisted library staff with the sign-ups.
- Modesto Kiwanis matching funds provided 250 books for kids at County Fair

FOML Operations

- FOML finances migrated to QuickBooks Online
- New FOML policies adopted: Whistleblower, Conflict of Interest, Board Covenants
- Current Membership: 170
- Current Assets: \$100,291

Events & Programs

- Yarning with Friends – monthly knit & crochet classes; avg. attendance 16 – 20 youth and adults
 - YWF projects: Wonders Under the Sea; Children's Bookshelf; Great Pumpkin Hunt
- National Friends of Libraries Week activities: Yarners Market at Modesto Farmers Market; Modesto Library Staff Appreciation event.
- FOML-hosted library events included Halloween Parade; Youth Craft Fair; Winter Ball and more

Notable

- Isa Wiechmann and Linda Owen named Shining Stars by Stanislaus Library Foundation
- Board of Directors approved \$3 million Capital Campaign to commence in 2024.
- Forty-five FOML members (including 14 new members and first-time volunteers) donated their time at 11 events in 2023. In all, members gave more than 1,700 volunteer hours.

Submitted 3/24 by Denise Nordell

Roots of the Forest

*For the 50th anniversary of the
Friends of the Modesto Library*

See the California towhees,
the golden-crowned sparrows,
those expert aerators improving the soil;

from there, go underground
to a vast system built on foundation
of root and mycorrhizal web:

Filaments of fungi intertwine
with tree root tips; helper-strands
bring mineral nutrients and water

to the root and receive its energy
in exchange. The unceasing work
inside this riparian richness—

transport of phosphorus up,
absorption of carbon down
into the organism's storage sink.

Invisible transfer, mission critical:
Symbiotic connection that simply *is*—
through drought and wildfire, atmospheric

river, encroachment. Through all seasons,
a miraculous sort of photosynthesis
by which the sun's very light is altered.

This is our habitat, the valley oak grove
where we take up our task, this *idea*,
yarning individual fibers and filaments

together, loosely and beautifully,
into something we call *community*.
This structure—this forest—rises up

from the soil into the light; contains our best thoughts,
collective memories, rituals—the songs
of our tender, human hearts.

-- Stella Beratlis, March 2024

Friends of the Modesto Library
Statement of Financial Position
January 31, 2024

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Checking, general	\$ 32,870
Checking, Library Campaign	272
Funds held at PayPal	73
US Bank, CD 2582	27,392
Total Bank Accounts	60,607
Other Current Assets	
Due from Barnes & Noble	2,690
Prepaid expenses	10
Scholastic Books store credit	2,830
Total Other Current Assets	5,530
Total Current Assets	66,137
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 66,137
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
	-
Equity	
Net assets, temporarily restricted	\$ 750
Net assets, unrestricted	65,387
Total Equity	66,137
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 66,137

Friends of the Modesto Library
Statement of Activity, actual v annual budget
July 1, 2023 through January 31, 2024

	<i>actual</i>	<i>annual budget</i>
Program expenses		
Library funding requests	\$ 9,000	\$ 14,600
Library programs		
Books donated	3,057	
Halloween	45	
Imagination Library	2,050	
National FOL week	15	
National Library week	256	
Other program expenses	200	
Yarning with Friends	104	
Yarning proceeds/donations	(333)	
Total Yarning with Friends	(229)	
Total Library programs	5,394	2,250
Tax measure support	-	5,000
Total mission costs	14,394	21,850
Revenue over (under) mission costs	3,422	3,050
Expenditures		
Bank fees & service charges	146	-
Insurance	-	400
Meetings	-	200
Memberships and subscriptions	75	130
Office supplies	216	100
Postage and PO Box	321	234
Printing and promotional items	1,384	750
Tax and licenses	25	20
Website maintenance	10	430
Total Expenditures	2,177	2,264
Net Operating Revenue	1,245	786
Other Revenue		
Interest earned	743	-
Library Capital Campaign donations	750	-
Total Other Revenue	1,493	-
Other Expenditures		
In-Kind expenses not categorized	-	600
Support for Capital Campaign	478	38,094
Total other expenditures	478	38,694
Net revenue over (under) expenditures	\$ 2,260	\$ (37,908)

Proposed

Modesto Library Funding Request to FOML, 2024-2025						
Items Requested	Total Requested	Quarterly Meeting Date Funds Requested				Strategic Priorities
		9/4/2024	12/4/2024	3/5/2025	6/4/2025	
Circulation Display Supplies (Poster Board, Paper, Velcro, Paint, Dye Cutter materials, etc)	\$250	\$250				3.a
Juvenile Justice Center book club (YSO, Annie Snell)	\$800		\$800			3.b, 5.a
Modesto Dia Event (April 2025)	\$1,200		\$1,200			3.a, 3.b, 4.c, 5.a
Staff Professional Development trainings	\$1,600		\$1,600			2.d
Adult Programming (\$300/Quarter)	\$600	\$300	\$300			3.b , 4.a, 4.c
Childrens Programming/Crafts (\$800/Quarter)	\$1,600	\$800	\$800			3.b, 4.a, 4.b, 4.c
Books for County Fair	\$400				\$400	3.b, 4.a, 5.a
Makerspace Programming and supplies (\$800/Quarter)	\$1,600	\$800	\$800			4.a, 4.c
Makerspace iPads x 6	\$3,600	\$3,600				4.a, 4.c, 5.a
Totals	\$11,650	\$5,750	\$5,500	\$0	\$400	