

Friends Of Oskaloosa Library FOOLs Minutes  
Unapproved – to be reviewed and approved at next meeting

Date: May 8, 2024

Location: Oskaloosa Public Library, 5:15 pm

Meeting Called to Order 5:20 pm

The March Meeting Notes were approved.

Officers and Members Present

President Margaret Fast, Secretary Carol Snyder, Co-Treasurers Jeannette Hierstein & Melinda Dick-Lang, Library Director Sammy Smith, Members: Cheryl Sylvester, Jo Cross.

Treasurer's Report

Melinda reported recent deposits; Plant Sale \$968.00, FOKL Challenge Grant \$500, along with book sales and donations.

The current bank balance is \$10,119.66.

Previous Business

The Plant Sale was very successful. There were 57 total raffle entries, with FOOLs gaining 10 new contacts for our member list. Margaret wrote OPL thank you notes to R & R Acres and Stonehouse Gardens for the beautiful donations. All agreed that every FOOLs event is a chance to advocate for the library.

Library Board of Trustees Report

See Library Director Report for Board news.

New Business

FOKL Challenge Grant Approved

Cheryl, as also a Board member of Friends of Kansas Libraries, shared how the Challenge Grant process works. She noted that Carolyn Little agreed with our Library's need for space and the wish to add more shelving vertically.

Sammy has been working with local contractor Zach Subelka, on the plan to update and revitalize the Children's and YA room. Sammy requested \$1,000 for Zach's purchase of materials, and labor. Cheryl motioned that the FOOLs release the grant fund of \$500 plus \$500 from the plant sale to the project. Jo seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Before and after photos will be taken by Sammy, Zach, and staff for the grant report, and library history.

Donated Books

Jeannette reported on the significant influx of quality books at the bookstore. Art, history, home décor, cooking, novels, vintage, and more. Donations coming from former Lawrence bookstore owners, and two private collections. Jeannette

noted that we are unable to accept books that have not been properly stored. Due to the number of books, Jeannette stated extra free-standing shelves would be appreciated. Sammy indicated there could be a shelf after the updating and would also check with other libraries who are remodeling.

Melinda reported on the recent Tuesday 10am-4pm book sale in front of the library. There was not much traffic in the morning, so suggested future sales be afternoon only. Even though there were not many sales, it is another opportunity for library visibility. Next book sale will be during Old Settlers. Cheryl mentioned it is good to target sales to a holiday or theme event. The Old Jeff. Town Farmers Market Saturday was discussed, though the Book Fool is already open then.

Jeannette and Carol explained “feather flags” to gain visibility that could fit into existing sidewalk holes in front of the library and the bookstore. Carol will look at pricing and local stores who have purchased the flags. Cheryl moved that up to \$150 be approved to purchase the flags and poles, with Jeannette seconding. Motion passed unanimously.

### Library Director Report

Sammy reported and showed us some preliminary progress on moving a bookcase that will be repurposed. The library will be closed to the public for a week to accommodate the work.

Sammy shared the Summer Reading calendar schedule with kick-off day June 1, ending July 13<sup>th</sup>, and an impressive number of locally sourced items for prizes and foods. Some planned activities such as Old Settlers adventure theme float (with Board participation), model Wind Wagon racing, Free Fishing Day, and a Block Party celebrating the Reading month.

Book bags will once again be locally sewn – this year as a string bag backpack for the Adventure theme. Sewists will use the library’s accumulation of fabrics and set-up in the library back room during the closed week.

With the addition of adults to the Summer Reading and some extra activities, and referencing the successful Plant Sale, Sammy requested \$750 from FOOLs (up from previous year’s \$500). Jo motioned that the \$500 be given as requested and Melinda seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### Next Meeting

FOOLs will meet again close to the beginning of school.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm. Jo motioned to adjourn the meeting with Melinda seconding.