**FRIENDS OF THE CALAVERAS COUNTY LIBRARY**

**ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 13, 2021**

Meeting called to order at 9:05am.

Members Present: Pru Starr (President/WP FOTL), Ray Waller (VP/Moke Hill FOTL), Diane Jarvi (Secretary/AC FOTL), Shirley Huberty (At-Large/FOTCCL Treasurer), Richard Raso (Arnold FOTL), Mary Ann Evans (VS FOTL), Pat Bettinger (VS FOTL), Nancy Murray (Murphys FOTL).

Ex-Officio Members & Guests: Nancy Giddens (County Librarian), Phil Guttierrez (Literacy Director), Bob Dean (At-Large/Moke Hill FOTL), and Garry Evans, (guest), Tricia Slavik (Guest), Ann Seely (Literacy), Charnette Boylan (SA FOTL), Cathi Mewhinney (SA FOTL), Celeste Borden (SA FOTL), Kathy Martinez (SA FOTL), Conrad Levasseur (guest), Chloe Shufeldt (bookkeeper).

Absent: Copperopolis FOTL, Annie Robb (Arnold FOTL).

**CALAVERAS COUNTY POET LAUREATE**

Pru introduced our new Poet Laureate, Conrad Levasseur. Conrad spoke briefly about this love of writing which began in college. Through his many travels, he wrote about other cultures and his experiences. He considers himself a “mountain man” having been a river and travel guide for many years. He loves this area of the County, and has been here many years. He is honored to be our first poet laureate.

Agenda: Today’s agenda was approved [M/S/A].

**OPENING REMARKS:**

Pru welcomed everyone to our Annual Meeting. She then introduced Tricia Slavik (Marketing campaign manager), and asked her to speak about the work she did for our Bookmobile drive. Tricia was thrilled to have been involved in helping us raise over $96,000 for our new bookmobile. She acknowledged our generous community, and thanked everyone for all their support. She will continue to work with us to “see this thing through”. She hopes to be a part of the grand opening event. Everyone in the room gave her a huge round of applause. For without her help and expertise, we would not have achieved our goal this quickly.

Pru spoke about all the successes we had this past year in spite of all the COVID restrictions. Accomplishments this past year included:

* Moving the AC library to a new location in January. Friends fundraising included selling holiday soap and having 4 successful soup events.
* Arnold completed their four seasons outdoor mural, and had on-line story time.
* Copperopolis made new improvements to their library space.
* Moke Hill started an our door mural on the side of their building.
* Murphys is working on improving their up stairs space by adding an elevator and moving the children’s area to this space.
* San Andreas held “drive” through events for both Halloween and Christmas. They also helped with the Summer Lunch program.
* Valley Springs provided on-line story time.
* West Point held a Valentine party “drive” through.
* All branches/Friends groups helped to raise money for the new bookmobile.
* Shona Spaeth helped to improve our web pages.

Last, but not least, Pru acknowledged Nancy Giddens, our fabulous County librarian, who has worked tirelessly this past year to keep our libraries open and safe.

**SPECIAL** **AWARD**

Pru awarded Chloe Shufeldt with a special award to acknowledge all her work as our bookkeeper. She works countless hours over and above her job. She has been a tremendous asset to Shirley Huberty our Treasurer. To honor her, she was presented with a bonus check and a lavender wreath (made by Pru). Chloe thanked everyone for this honor.

**REPORTS**

**Literacy** - Phil reported that this past year was considered an “adapt or survive” year. Due to COVID, jail visits were stopped, and learners received study packets to keep up with remote learning Ann Seely prepared a monthly newsletter with lesson plans included.

Total revenue received: $89,046.41

Total expenses: $89,046.41

Total Number of adult leaner instructional hours = 2,641

Number of adult learners serviced = 75

[See Phil’s full report attached].

**Librarian**- This past year has been a challenging one for the Calaveras County Library. We are continuing to adjust to our new normal in dealing with the COVID19 virus and its variants.

Since October last year, our public service has been consistent at all sites except West Point. Unfortunately our numbers have not yet returned to what they were pre-COVID. We served 20,000 patrons in 6 sites from July 2020 – June 2021. This is less than half our usual numbers. In all places, our hours have been reduced to allow for proper cleaning and patron management, so we had fewer visitors this past year. We believe that many people either do not feel comfortable coming into a public place, or don’t want to go to a place where masks are required if a person is not vaccinated.

Highlights from this past year include:

* Nancy hired a new Children’s Programming staff member in March.
* A new branch assistant was hired in West Point in May.
* A new First 5 staff member has been hired.
* A new branch assistant has been hired in Arnold.
* Angels Camp moved to a new larger location.
* We added another digital movie, TV and audio book app called HOOPLA.
* Our Summer Reading Program was very successful with 403 children.
* We served *Lunch at the Library* at 4 sites this year, distributing 4066 lunches.
* We served 49,625 patrons and checked out 73,000 items/85,000 total circulation.

The greatest accomplishment this year was the FOTCCL fundraising campaign to raise matching funds for the Bookmobile promotion. Through all of the efforts we were able to raise nearly $250,000. We hope to have the Bookmobile ready by January 2022.

[See Nancy’s full report attached].

**Treasurer**: Shirley distributed the Profit & Loss report for January 1, 2021 to October 7, 2021. A motion to approve the report was approved. [M/S/A]. See attached report, along with a proposed budget for the upcoming year.

**NEW BUSINESS**

ELECTION OF NEW BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2022:

* President: Pru Starr
* Vice President: Ray Waller
* Secretary: Diane Jarvi
* Treasurer: Shirley Huberty (At-Large)
* At Large: Bob Dean

**Closing Remarks**: Pru thanked everyone for coming this morning. She further thanked all branch representatives, and staff members for their hard work and dedication to making the library such a success this past year.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25.

Minutes submitted by: Diane Jarvi