**Friends of the Calaveras County Library**

**Minutes January 18, 2023**

**9AM**

Minutes **12-14-22** **motion to approve** : Pru/second: Shirley/ **unanimous approval**

Agenda **1-18-23 motion to approve**: Bob/second: MaryAnn/ **unanimous approval**

Present: Diane, Jarvi, Marianne and, Gary Evans, Charnette Bolyn Caroline Lipnick, Bob Dean, Nancy Giddens, Shirley Huberty, Ray Waller, Pru Starr

Absent: Nancy Murray, Karen Eggleston, Martha Rubin

Pre agenda information: Valley Springs FOTCCL member Marlene Settle’s memorial was held in Cheseborough room of San Andreas Library

O.E.S. ‘winter warning center time’ at San Andreas Library zoom meetings flourished during the winter storms.

**Literacy Report:** written report submitted, Phil was unable to attend in person.

**Librarian’s Report:**

**Report from the County Librarian**

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**Staff:** In my absence, a competent panel interviewed candidates for the Valley Springs Branch Assistant. We had 7 who initially responded to my approvals. Of those 7, 6 responded to the interview scheduler. Of those 6, only 3 came to interviews. Two called informing us or HR that they could not attend and one was a “no show.” Even so, we had 2 very good candidates who both did a great job in the interview. Nalatie came to my house and we went over the candidates. I have made an offer to one of them and she accepted. She should be in process for her security clearance. We hope she will be able to attend orientation on January 30th. If not, she will attend on February 13th.

**Bookmobile:**

On December 22nd we received a call from Mobility in Sacramento saying the vehicle was ready for pick up. We did not have sufficient staff here to do this. (I was still unable to see to drive) I told them we would likely not be able to pick it up until after the holidays.

As you know, storms have been severe since then and I advised staff to wait until the rain and winds subsided. We are now working on a plan to pick it up as soon as we can get a crew together. I have reached out to TechOps to verify that they have taken care of payments and verified that all other systems are operating as expected.

**Outreach media staff:** When you have an event for your branch, please send the information to Amber to put on our County Face Book, even if your branch has its own social media. If you have something you want her to share, her email is: [amberarack@gmail.com](mailto:amberarack@gmail.com)

**Toy Lending Grant:** The toys are all processed and in place in various sites. Go and check them out!

**Community Engagement Platform:**  Because I have been out, we have not worked on this yet. We will get to it next week for sure!

**Niche Academy:** We will also work on getting this set up as soon as we can. We will try to do good marketing on the product and hope it will be a help to patrons and staff. Staff will be showing it to patrons as they interact with them and of course, use the tutorials for patrons who ask for help with a task which is covered. We will also put the information about the tutorials with the marketing materials we have for Kanopy, Hoopla and the like.

**Connected California –** Branches have the flyers for this and Amber has posted it on Face Book. As you recall, this is a program from the State Library designed to help unconnected Californians to get access to the internet, obtain equipment and get technical help.

**K-12 online tutoring –** We will begin offering this online tutoring service to our patrons in January. Students will get a live session with a tutor, feedback on essays. This is called HelpNow from BrainFuse, who also provide VetsNow database. Kelly will get this on our website this week and we have a Press Release for it as soon as it is up. We also have flyers, posters and digital resources for social media. We want to get this announced this week.

**Parks Pass Grant opportunity:** The State Library has expanded the Parks Pass program to include some grant opportunities which will enable us to create Story Walks and backpacks for outdoor experiences for our families. The grant was enlarged last month and Nalatie and I have been discussing what else we might do it we had more money.

We are going to try to create Story Walks for the following branches/communities:

San Andreas – either around the Library or down the path across the bridge

Angels Camp – we are exploring the possibility of installing one in Utica Park

Mokelumne Hill – we are exploring the possibility of installing on in the part adjacent to the Library

Murphys – we hope to put on in Murphys Park

West Point – we are exploring the possibility of installing one on the chain-link fence in front of the Library and down the path to the side of the Library

We have looked into creating backpacks to include binoculars, guides, compasses and other paraphernalia for hiking. We will also do an astronomy back pack, a couple of local history backpack walks, disc golf backpacks. Maybe more!

We have reached out to the Calaveras Big Trees Association to explore opportunities for helping children/families learn about conservation and saving our trees. Along with this we are considering chartering a vehicle to bring children and parents from the lower parts of the county to the Big Trees State Park and participate in some kind of educational program or project.

I will keep you posted on how all of this works out. We can ask for up to $75,000. The grant is due on January 30th, so we will get this planned and detailed as soon as we can. Nalatie is the primary one working on this for us.

•In addition to Nancy’s report, Pru stated the Enterprise Foundation $2,000 grant was received and deposited to FOTCCL account.

**Motion to approve giving funds to Niche Academy payment of first year: Motion,** Pru, **Second,** Bob, **unanimous approval.**

**•Bob** volunteered to contact Audubon Society to see about a ‘bird identification’ story board.

**Treasurer’s Report: ( see attachment)** No red flags. **Motion to approve financial report and balance sheet :** Pru/**second** Caroline/ **unanimous approval**

**Old Business**

Veteran’s update on computer purchase: none

Library signage: in process

2023 wish list: ongoing

**New Business**

Charnette has keys to storage unit for records

Diane will store FOTCCL compiled documents in the unit

Winter hours: same

**Branch Reports**

Angels Camp: •Diane reported a $2812 poinsettia sales profit

•Successful Kids/ storytime/ Xmas craft event

•Soup sale with pickup at the Angels library

Arnold: no report

Copperopolis: •Caroline reported new shelving in book room Copperopolis branch

Mokelumne Hill: Ray reported no new activities

Murphys: no report

San Andreas: •Charnette reported successful Xmas children’s event, several teenagers

volunteered to assist children with games/crafts, Mr. and Ms. Claus attended

Valley Springs: •MaryAnne reported increasing participation with Storytime, and newspaper

advertising of library events, “Lines from the Library” brought to you by VSFOTCCL

West Point: Pru reported upcoming February 10 “Love to Read” card making event for kids

Adjourn: 10:30

Next meeting 2-15-23

Respectfully submitted by Pru Starr