

**Friends of the Fresno County Public Library**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**April 28, 2025**  
Fig Garden Library

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Nick Andrade, Shannon Wise, Rosa Huerta, Mark Kalchik, Jim Poptanich, Vicki Love, Sandra Knudson, Deborah Janzen

**REGRETS:** Dan Dunklee, Nancy Kast, Butch Dies, Becky Brown

**ABSENT:** Brian Baker

**ALSO PRESENT:** Terry Eckman, Susan Renfro, Sally Gomez, Brooke Payton, Laura Kalchik, Amanda (MLIS student)

**1. CALL TO ORDER/OPENING REMARKS**

- The meeting was called to order at 7:02 by President Shannon Wise.

**2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF REGRETS AND EXCUSED ABSENCES**

**3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 24, 2025 MEETING**

- **Motion by:** Jim Poptanich
- **Seconded by:** Mark Kalchik
- **Carried**

**4. COUNTY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT – SALLY GOMEZ**

- Naming rights for the new Clovis and Reedley buildings:
  - The decision to begin a naming rights bidding process was made by the Board of Supervisors; the Library wasn't consulted, so much as directed.
  - The Library will be involved in the RFP process, but otherwise, the Library's only real input has been insisting that the signage be as small as possible.
  - The decision on the new name is intended to be made before the groundbreaking takes place, which is complicated because there are so many variables at play.
  - The Board of Supervisors had trouble finding another municipality to base this plan on, and there have been concerns from the community regarding the idea of selling off municipal space to the highest bidder.
  - The money will benefit the Library; the Library ensured that this was in the contract language.
  - The funding for the projects is already there and comes from Measure B funds, so this extra funding will basically reimburse Measure B funds.

**5. DEPUTY COUNTY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT – TERRY ECKMAN**

- In-depth conversations are happening about the interiors of Clovis and Reedley. The projects are now in the construction document phase, as opposed to the design phase.
- Selma will hopefully be reopening in June, but there is no date yet.

- Sanger is roughly on-schedule to open by summer.
- Politi has had a recent visit from Demco about the interiors. The owners of the building are waiting on plans for the electrical work. There will be an ask to the Board of Supervisors for \$15 million over the course of five years in order to help get the project going.
- As for the infrastructure grant for Central, the electrical and lighting work need to be done soon, but there's no plan yet for how to manage the closure of the building for staff or patrons.
  - Part of the relocation issue is that there's still no County Real Property person.
  - The work must be done by March 27 of 2026.
  - Moving the servers will be virtually impossible, so in order to prevent an SJVLS disruption, generators will be run, if at all possible.
  - Brooke Payton suggested that Bitwise, especially the Hive building, might be an option.
  - The Baskin Robbins building next to Betty has been purchased, but the building needs air conditioning and a great deal of work, so there will be no time to renovate it in time for Central's closure and make it habitable for Literacy, Talking Book, or any other offices or programs.
- Sunnyside: the shopping center the Library is in was sold to a new owner on April 18, which won't affect Library operations at all for now, but it might be a good thing and lead to some long-needed improvements and upgrades, considering the new ownership is more familiar with how to run a shopping center.

#### **6. LIBRARY ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORT – SUSAN RENFRO**

- Summer At Your Library will take place June 16-August 3.
- The Library is down to one part-time graphic artist, but luckily, Amy (the former graphic artist) was able to finish most of the graphics in the pipeline before she retired.
- A book has not yet been chosen for Fresno County Reads, but one should be chosen by the next Board meeting.
- Jim Poptanich asked about whether the Library has a contract with the school district in order to reach out or promote to the schools. He also asked if Programming could coordinate some Duffy Hudson programs across the County.

#### **7. NEW BUSINESS**

- None.

#### **8. BOARD REPORTS**

- **PRESIDENT – SHANNON WISE**
  - Shannon will be reaching out about scheduling a meeting for the Policies and Forms Committee, as well as one with Rosa.
- **VICE PRESIDENT, PROGRAMS – ROSA HUERTA**
  - No report.
- **VICE PRESIDENT, MEMBERSHIP – BECKY BROWN**

- Absent; no report.
- **TREASURER—NICK ANDRADE**
  - In the February reports, the securities portion doesn't include CVCF Q1 reports for 2025.
  - The Credit Union income may include December at this point; Nick has asked the accountant about whether they have been separated out.
  - No budget has been proposed or approved yet.
  - Brooke Payton asked if anyone had been in touch with the attorney yet regarding a letter of support for the Tower District Library. Nick and Shannon have not arranged a conversation with her yet, but will be in touch soon.

## **9. OLD BUSINESS**

- The Policies and Forms Committee will meet soon.
- No bookshop update.

## **10. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Brooke Payton mentioned that the Van Ness Village book fair was returning on May 17 from 5-9 PM, and that Friends of the Library was welcome to have a table. Sam Retton will be there. She also mentioned that the San Joaquin Valley Bookfest will be returning on May 3 from 8:30-5:50 at Fresno City College.
- **NEXT MEETING: Monday, May 19 at 7 PM at Fig Garden.**

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

- **Motion by:** Mark Kalchik
- **Seconded by:** Sandra Knudson
- **Carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM.**

**Submitted by Sam Retton, Executive Assistant.**