

Almond Library Board of Trustees Meeting for August 2024

Thursday, 29 August

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

Present: Mary Jo Morrison, Vice President; Lee Berry, Financial Officer; Cole DiGerlando, Secretary; Bec Cronk, Connor Dirlam; Amber DiGerlando, Friends Representative to the Board

Meeting called to order at 6:34 pm

*Lee made the motion, Mary Jo seconded; all approved*

Portal Burn representatives Debbie and Josh came to present the fundraiser that was done in July; got some arts and crafts supplies and brought a check for \$1000—raised just over \$800 and their Board unanimously voted to round up to \$1000. Hurray! Some discussion on where in the budget the donation will be utilized.

### **Director's Reports:**

Connor's Report (see attached):

- Usual stuff
- Plant sale prep
- Juvenile series separated to better highlight the books, allowing for more shelf space
- Now able to expand the graphic novel section
  - Discussion on the numbers; big jump in door count most likely attributed to StarQuest

*Cole made a motion to accept; seconded by Lee; all approved*

Bec's Report (see attached):

- Summer Reading program wrapped up last week
- Back hallway is the location where painting has happened, but not finished yet
- Mushroom program rescheduled; aimed at adults with sign-ups required
- Handyman came and fixed the railing; has some new options for additional people who can do some basic work for the library
- Alfred-Almond principal is interested in partnering with the 2 libraries in the district; looking to attend the school's open house event next year (not enough time to schedule for this year); may be able to arrange some field trips
- Monarch butterflies will probably have to be released elsewhere due to our hours of operation

*Cole motioned to accept; Mary Jo seconded; all approved*

Financial Officer's Report (see attached):

- Money looking good; Advertising is one category where there is still money

- Bec mentioned that she had priced some fabric bags with our logo on it; potentially will purchase
- Programing has plenty of money; some discussion on logistics of spending money and booking outside vendors
- Repairs: plenty of money left, so we should try to get someone to do the work
  - Amber has an electrician who might be able to do some work for us; we decided to give him a call
- Discussion:
  - Might need to reallocate some of the monies into different portions of the budget for next year
  - Bec mentioned some overlap and gaps between programs and outreach
  - Lee is interested in investigating the electric sign and will start actively researching; Bec said that we still haven't been able to connect with the town people
  - Mary Jo asked about the shades upstairs; want to replace them, but not what's there; will look into getting an order going for them

*Cole motioned; Mary Jo seconded; all approved.*

#### Amber's Friends Report:

- For Aug. 24 there was the God Bless America reading; Connor made a really nice display;
- There are many books in the library that don't get read, so might be nice to do a regular read-aloud event as a segue into Adult Storytime and/or Readers Theater
  - Lee asked about the logistics, and we discussed that the readings would be part of programming
  - Amber also mentioned about sensory-friendly storytime and especially focusing on the local special needs population; would be different than stories aimed at children; explained that multi-sensory tools are helpful; Amber plans to contact ARC to see if something could be scheduled
- Sensory-friendly postal art show opening on Friday, Sept. 13; Amber gave an update on the amount of art and letters received; doesn't expect a large group of people to attend, but is advertising it, especially to members of the disability community;
  - Discussion about having a sign-in book to see where folks were coming from
  - Need to look into the street address issue
  - Lee said some of the money from Portal Burn should go towards the Art Show; all agreed

*Lee motioned; Cole seconded; all approved.*

#### Community Days

- Have quilt tickets at the desk; more can be printed; they are \$1 per or 6 for \$5
- Tickets will be at the coffee/doughnut station and at the book sale
- Table needs to be staffed from 7:30; Connor will be setting up the tent first

- Elva is reaching out Chris to staff the table with Lee (see if he can staff the table during the parade so Lee can take out his swell float)
- Need three cash boxes: 2 for the table and 1 for the book/plant sale
- Book sale will be in the boardroom; plants in the community space or outside; Amber & Cole will staff the sale(s); will bring bags; Sale will be all day that the library is open
- Question about the coffee; Amber and Cole will take care of the coffee
- Lee is making a float for the parade; needs foam board to paint on
- Cole & Amber will carry the library banner
  - Amber asked if the directors need help with setting up for the sale; Connor will let her know
  - Amber asked about other people giving book donations; since the goal is to get rid of books, not as interested in getting more donations; anything left over will get donated to charity

### **Old Business**

- Cleaning is still an issue
- Revisiting Connor's father's interior cameras; service is paid for through April
  - Cole made a motion to accept Kier's offer of cameras; Lee seconded; all approved
  - Discussion about needing to have policies going further, but these cameras will only be on when the library is closed
- Bec will check pricing on camera for outside the building for security
- Elva will follow up on the new gas co.

### **New Business**

Connor brought up about some patrons having their phones on speaker phone while in the library for long periods of time; could be a privacy issue for other patrons

Date for next meeting will be Sept. 26

*Cole motioned to adjourn; Lee seconded; all approved at 8:38 pm.*

[Bec's Report:](#)

[Connor's Report:](#)

Lee's Report: