

FRIENDS OF THE SUN CITY LIBRARIES, INC
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
April 11, 2024, 10 a.m. on Zoom

PRESENT: Sue Blechl, Tom Haugsby, Irene Nathanson, Chris Nettesheim, Ruth Polansky, Sherri Sharp, Jessica Potter Slider, Joyce Voss, Cathy Weyers and Janelle Yoder

ABSENT: Cindy Daly, Marcia Davis & Tom Everitt

Guests: Debbie Dammeir & Mary Maxwell

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

Since our last meeting, RCSC indicated that our five-year leases for Sun City Library (at the Bell Center) and Fairway Library (in that Rec Center) were not to be renewed. Friends were engaged in a “Save Our Library” campaign. That greatly influenced some of our discussions today.

Our new RCSC liaison, Chris Nettesheim, was asked to introduce herself. She shared some of her military life, being a member of the RCSC Technology Committee, and enjoying a life of reading. Individual Board members then introduced themselves to Chris.

MINUTES: Sherri moved to **approve the minutes of the March 2024 Board meeting as corrected (spelling of Michelle DEFord’s name)**. Ruth seconded. **Motion carried.**

TREASURER: Jessica related that sales at the bookstore have increased considerably since 2023. Expenses are close to those of a year ago. Joyce moved to **accept the March 31, 2024, Treasurer Report**. Ruth seconded it. **Motion carried.**

COMMUNITY OUTREACH: Vacancy!!

FINANCE: The next meeting of the Finance Committee is May 17, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Gathering Place within the Sun City Library. Jessica is hoping to have a new community representative in place by then.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT: Vacancy!! In the interim Joyce will now receive online applications for board membership.

EVENT/VOLUNTEER COORDINATION: Last month's plans for the National Library Week celebrations at both libraries were canceled due to our work with "Save Our Libraries." Looking back at the recent Volunteer dinner, we were pleased with the idea of guests and hope to continue that practice at like events. Sue stated that a Task Force would be formed to determine the criteria for Volunteer award selections. It was also noted that our Volunteer of the Year plaque, hanging outside the bookstore door, needs to be updated.

HOMEBOUND COMMITTEE: Irene shared that some of her Read-To-Me volunteers were active in the "Save Our Libraries" campaign. Several sent letters to the newspaper. One of the RTM volunteers is retiring and two others have health issues. She is now looking for some new volunteers. A board member suggested that a name change might be in order. One that reflects more accurately what the volunteer session is. Irene has plans to seek suggestions. Another idea put forth was the possibility of a video of an RTM session to be put on our webpage. Mailchimp was upgraded at an opportune time. It served us with "Save Our Libraries." Now we have greater opportunities to connect with larger audiences.

BOOKSTORE: Cathy reported that from the Charlotte and Gerhard Klose collection of books offered to the Friends, volunteers took 54 hardbacks and 263 paperbacks. Instead of monthly half-price sales, the bookstore will now bolster older hardbacks for 25 cents apiece. Clients seem to love this. She stated that we endeavor to keep our prices down because besides being sellers, we are also a service to the Community.

When Cathy and Karen attended the ceremony to receive an award given by the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) for our donations of materials to them, they had a tour of Adobe Mountain School District. Karen was so impressed with their work that she volunteered to be a mentor.

Cathy gave Chris Nettlesheim a tour of the Friends Bookstore.

MCLD REPRESENTATIVE: With Glen's move to a new position, Janelle, supervisor at Fairway, is covering both libraries until Glen's old position is filled. Along with her staff, she was overwhelmed by the Public's response to the "Save Our Libraries" campaign.

RCSC REPRESENTATIVE: When asked what the attendance was at the recent RCSC Exchange meeting, Chris said there was no official count. She could tell us that the main chair setup was for 500. Sue extended a thank you from the Board concerning communications with the RCSC from its vice-president, Karen McAdam. Chris stated that Jeremy Reeder, director of the Maricopa County Library System, on the day of the Exchange, offered to meet with the Board. That meeting is to take place in a few days. Chris said that the library question is a top priority with the RCSC Board and leasing was not a mechanism to end libraries.

NEWSLETTER: Tom E is always ready to receive pictures and news for Focus on Friends. The April issue will be delayed but will include full coverage of our recent activities.

WEB AND GRAPHICS MASTER: Cindy, while in Ecuador this time, cannot connect to the Friends Website. She has plans to correct this before her next trip.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Campaign to "Save Our Libraries" continuation – on hold
2. Lighting assessment of the Friends Bookstore – on hold
3. Follow up to canceled National Library Week celebration – on hold

New Business:

1. How to harness the goodwill and awareness of libraries that we have garnered? We were asked to think about this and will discuss at the May meeting.
2. Tom E, Cathy, Sue, and Marcia were the steering committee for the campaign.
3. Bookstore is the “Living Face of the Friends”
4. Sue will do a press release about the ADJC award
5. Tom E will draft a list of Board requirements.
6. May 5, 2024, is the deadline for the UPDATE library column.

Having no further business, Sue asked for a **motion to adjourn**. Joyce so moved and Sherri seconded. **Motion passed.**

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am.

The next board meeting will be on May 9, 2024, at 10 am. It will be in person at the Sun City Branch, Bell Center, at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Voss
Secretary, FOSCL Board