

Friends of the Esparto Regional Library
Minutes
May 4, 2010

1. Call to order

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM. Present: Julio Cota, Al Emrick, Sandy Pelletier, Betty Koeppen, Gabe Galvan, Rie Surad-Miller, Nadine DeSmet, Barbara Durst and Malinda. Julio welcomed visitors and the agenda was approved with changes: item 5C - Library Assistant interviews and item 6D - Connecting to Community Voices.

2. The Acceptance of Minutes

It was moved, seconded and approved to accept March minutes including addition of Nadine to attendees, changes in Financial Reports expression of balances (paragraph one) and changing "membership dues" to "contributions" (paragraph four).

3. Financial Reports

It was moved, seconded and unanimous to accept financial report distributed by Al. Julio asked if there was any further discussion of budget. No response. Discussion of suggestion from library patron about monthly "membership dues". Al pointed out dues, which are nominal, are paid once and additional donations may be made monthly. Many pointed out you can arrange to have a certain amount directed to FERL each month from your bank account.

4. Correspondence and announcements

Newsletters from Yolo County Historical Society, other Yolo County Libraries

5. Library Personnel, news and business

A. Esparto Regional Library

Malinda reported on monthly statistics for April. Al questioned if library was being used as classroom. Discussion followed on relationship of Esparto schools and library including monthly rent ESUD wants for FERL container on premises. Julio said negotiations regarding the container will be between the Yolo County Library and ESUD.

Malinda reported she will visit elementary and middle schools to introduce the summer reading program which begins right after school ends. Elementary theme is "Make a Splash at Your Library" and theme for youth (teens) is "Make Waves at Your Library." Plans include two speakers, discussion of water safety; two puppet shows and clown performer. Theme is chosen a year in advance by California State Library and resources are utilized across participating branches. Prizes this year include free pizza certificate for reading six books and chance at iPod Shuffle for written book review.

Malinda attended event honoring Yolo County Librarian, Patty Wong, as one of Yolo County's Women of the Year. There is new member of the Yolo County Library Board from West Sacramento. Due to expected budget shortfall, furloughs discussed. Malinda attended workshop on dealing with difficult patrons. There is new "floating" collection and you can download free books for listening. Family Place Learning Center is starting in Winters and they are also expanding their toy library.

B. Yolo County Library 100 Year Celebration

Rie displayed examples of logo, mugs and bags, souvenirs of 100 Years Celebration. June 28 is deadline for brief history of the Esparto Library. Nadine working on this. History and photos will be incorporated into triangular display for use at each celebratory event. At end of

year long celebration it becomes property of Esparto Library. Volunteers are needed for the booth at the Yolo County Fair.

The County Library asking all branches for money for souvenirs and ads. Betty suggested \$500. Some thought this too high. Discussion ended with suggested amount between \$200-500 be considered at next board meeting. Malinda pointed out 100 years is an important milestone and we need to get word out. She used cutting of hours at Woodland City Library as example of what we do not want to happen in Esparto. Betty added, in Oregon you pay directly for using library services. We still have a free library.

August 1 is big event on front lawn of Yolo County Courthouse including cookies, lemonade, media coverage, readings and raffle. Esparto Library will combine it's celebration with Harvest Day Dinner. An art display may also be part of this fall event.

C. Library Assistant Interviews

Julio participated in interviews. Two panels included respectively, community members and library representatives. Candidates toured different libraries. Candidates were well-qualified and final decision is now at County Library. Julio also reported some discussion of bringing back the bookmobile. This would probably mean a new vehicle.

6. Old Business

A. Juvenile Detention Center

We donated books (paperbacks only) to Juvenile Detention Center. We can donate as often as we can and Betty and Malinda are on the lookout for appropriate materials.

B. Bylaws Committee Report

Sandy, Betty and Margaret reviewed bylaws and made change to include email as legitimate form of communication to inform members of annual meeting. Al was opposed. Many liked addition. It was moved, seconded and accepted to change bylaws and present changes at annual meeting in January next year. Al reminded board that revised bylaws, when approved by membership, needs to be sent to IRS and Board of Equalization. Julio thanked the committee members for their work.

C. Newsletter

Al pointed out changes to "Partners in Hours" program are not being updated on website and thereby newsletter is not reflecting changes either. Questions: Is editor/webmaster getting changes? Does Lynn want to continue to do newsletter? To cut costs go to black and white. Betty will investigate printing costs at Staples and Office Depot and email results. Dues envelopes are needed and a change to include email address can be added.

Discussion of what is in newsletter followed: lists of Partners in Hours and memorials, 100 Year Celebration, summer reading program and other ongoing programs.

D. Connecting Community Voices

Julio attended event sponsored by U.S. Congressman, Mike Thompson. He got photo op but did not win computer! It was nice dinner, nice visit.

7. New Business

Helen Voss complained by email chastising Capay Valley Chamber of Commerce for not including Esparto Library in any publicity for annual Almond Festival. Helen declined to renew her chamber membership.

8. The next board meeting is June 1.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Durst, Secretary