

Minutes

Friends of the Lincoln Library Board Meeting, November 9, 2021
Willow Room, 10:30-12:00
[for approval on December 14, 2021]

I. Call to Order: President Mary Nader called the meeting to order.

II. Welcome/Introductions – Mary welcomed Mary Lou Holbrook, Barbara DeBaptiste and Karen Lindh, and introduced Whitney Eklund, 2022 Hospitality Director.

III. Flag Salute

IV. Note for the Record: FOLL Board approved by email vote the addition of Whitney Eklund as Hospitality Director to the 2022 Board slate.

V. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes from October 12, 2021 board meeting: Wanda Melilli moved and Jo Jones seconded the minutes be approved. Passed.

VI. Library Report – Kathryn Hunt reported the staff is making “an exciting move into fall,” with the return of Family Storytime, Read to a Dog, and more. At the October LAB/LAC meeting, a “philanthropic artist” who recently moved to Lincoln proposed creating a permanent sculpture outside the library, entitled “The Stack.” Kathryn showed a picture of his proposed sculpture, which he would create at no cost to us. This must now go to the City Council for approval. Kathryn expressed deep appreciation to FOLL for all we do for the library.

VII. Officer/Director Reports

A. President Mary Nader – Mary reported that at the October LAB/LAC meeting she stressed the importance of being a member of FOLL, and took in at least one new member on the spot. The SCLH Garden Club sent us congratulations on our 35th anniversary. Mary thanked the 35th Anniversary Committee for their excellent work.

B. Vice President Jo Jones – no report.

C. Secretary Jeri Ferris – no report.

D. Treasurer Gloria Plotti-Irey – reported October revenue of \$3,407 (book sales, grants, memberships); expenses \$1,851 (mostly for costumed actors for “Harry Potter vs. Star Wars,” and large print and audio books). She has received the last installment of the Lincoln Hills Foundation grant. Still waiting for delivery of the cabinets for the FOLL office.

Gloria's reports in full are filed separately.

E. Book Sales Director Sharon Gorley – reported \$12,000 income so far this year. The Saturday Big Book Sale was disappointing, with only \$700 received. Many thanks to the Lincoln Hills Rods & Relics men who helped set up and tear down. Book sale shelves in the library earned \$1,265 in October. Decision: only two big book sales a year from now on, summer and winter.

F. Community Outreach Director – Open Position – (Linda Derosier reporting) Linda D. showed copies of the Lincoln News Messenger, in which Carol Feineman gave us a “trifecta” – three successive feature articles, thanks to Linda Morley’s efforts. City officials attended our 35th Anniversary, gave recognition. No decision as to library staff participation in the December 4 parade, 4:30-5:30 p.m. FOLL volunteers (5 so far) will carry FOLL bags, information, and hot chocolate packets. November 19 is deadline to decide. \$50 entry cost to Chamber of Commerce.

G. Grants Director Linda Derosier – reported she is waiting to hear acceptance (or not) of two grant proposals to the Lincoln Hills Foundation: 1. \$6,000 for large-print and audio books; 2. “Senior Digital Technology Training,” idea presented by Teresa Stanislav, training by library staff to begin in January 2022.

H. Hospitality Director Wanda Melilli – no report, but was thanked for her work on the 35th Anniversary Celebration.

I. Membership Director Linda Morley – reported 9 new members and 8 renewals in October for a total of 326 members. She continues to take lots of photos, is working on how best to get Twelve Bridges H.S. parents involved in FOLL, and thanked Carol Feineman, who is “a big supporter.” Will not provide automatic membership renewal option, but emphasizes on forms that each membership is for one year only and needs renewal every single year. She described different methods of payment, such as “Tap and Pay” and Venmo.

J. Newsletter Director (open position) – Gloria reports approximately 850 subscribers, with 3-5 more each month. For December, Karen Allen and Gloria are writing articles and will meet with Sam next week for updates on library events. One article will be on an Icelandic December tradition, in which children

receive a free book (*The Fox in the Library*), a take-home craft and cocoa packet. Other articles: the Hometown Parade, membership, the Big Book Sale, possible January [after meeting, changed to **December**] virtual author visit by a Battle of the Book author. Library closed December 24 through January 1.

K. Website & Social Media Director Lynne Rossi – Lynne reported all fine with the website, and thanked Whitney for taking over Facebook and Instagram postings. Whitney emphasized that we need to “like” each post as this improves our ranking, and the higher the rank, the more people see us. Lynne described some server problems sending email.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Volunteer Project – Gloria and Wanda – Gloria reported Kathryn has started the process of implementing an app which will keep track of each volunteer and his/her interests, so the library and FOLL can easily contact them when an appropriate event comes up. The app is scheduled to be up and running when the City's new website goes live in January 2022.

IX. Comments from members and others related to FOLL matters – Mary commented on school-library joint-use facilities. Mary Lou Holbrook described a rare book collection she would like to donate to FOLL.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

X. 35th Anniversary Celebration Wrap Up – Linda D. reported 130+ people took door prize tickets; Linda D. introduced Shirley Russell and Lynn Estabrook as honored guests; the Lincoln High chorus presented three beautiful songs, many chorus parents in the rotunda, FOLL gave \$100 as thanks to the chorus; Kathryn thanked FOLL for making her job easier. Lincoln Mayor Silhi, Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Lincoln Association representatives presented FOLL with certificates of recognition. Linda M. took many photos; guests enjoyed the history scrapbooks; Juan, a student, won the \$35 door prize; total FOLL expenditure, \$537.25. The only glitch – Sam's excellent video did not work as planned but we will see it later.

NEW BUSINESS:

XI. Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Lincoln Association Memberships – Linda D. reported our annual CC membership, \$140; annual DLA membership, \$75. Both well worth it for reciprocal benefits.

XII. Chamber of Commerce Holiday Parade – no report.

XIII. Holiday Tree Lane – Linda D. reported no answer regarding Christmas tree decorating, probably will not have this year.

XIV. Results of Vote on 2022 Board Slate – Jeri Ferris reported 43 members voted, with 42 in favor of the proposed slate. [Note – a vote came in on Nov. 9, too late to record – but still, 44 members voted.]

XV. ACTION ITEM: Gloria - Increase 2021 Budget (\$4,000 budgeted already spent) for Audio Books by \$700. Wanda moved, Linda D. seconded; passed.

XVI. ACTION ITEM: Gloria - Purchase of "Open Fridays" driveway sign insert, \$150. Linda D. moved, Jo Jones seconded; passed.

XVII. Big Day of Giving – May 5, 2022 – Gloria reported we received \$11,000 from BDOG last year and it is time to renew our participation. She has done it for three years, Lynne did it last year, they want someone else to take over. Linda D. says she will be involved but can't lead. Discussion on what is involved. Whitney says she will take the lead on BDOG 2022; Karen Lindh will help. Barbara DeBaptiste suggests having VIPs involved as much as possible. Discussion on recognition of FOLL volunteers.

XVIII. Proposed 2022 FOLL Budget – Gloria presented the budget, which she prepared in coordination with Kathryn and the Directors. Discussion and explanation. We will vote on the budget at the December meeting.

XIX. Recurring Membership Payments – Gloria does not recommend. (Also see Item I, Membership)

XX. Development of FOLL Guidelines on Use of Photos & Movie Images – Gloria asked for a group to help develop written policy: Linda M., Whitney and Karen L. will work with Gloria on these guidelines.

XXI. General Announcements and Closing Comments – Jo asked the new slate of officers to stand and introduced them.

XIV. Adjournment – Next Meeting, December 14, 2021, Willow Room, 10:30-12.

Attendance:

Board Members: Linda Derosier, Jeri Chase Ferris, Sharon Gorley, Jo Jones, Wanda Melilli, Linda Morley, Mary Nader, Gloria Pilotti-Irey, Lynne Rossi

Library Staff: Kathryn Hunt

Members and visitors: Judy Presnall, Karen Allen, Whitney Eklund, Karen Lindh, Mary Lou Holbrook, Barbara W. DeBaptiste.

Submitted by Jeri Chase Ferris, Secretary