

Minutes

Friends of the Lincoln Library Annual Membership Meeting, November 18, 2023
[for approval on December 12, 2023]

President Jo Jones welcomed all members to the meeting. Attendance listed at the end.

Library Report – Kathryn Hunt, Library Director, reported on “Bringing the Library to You 24/7”

Kathryn shared some impressive statistics about the library's collection, which includes 90,000 books, 10,000 movies, 10,000 audiobooks and over 36,000 items for kids aged 0-12, plus teen books and magazines. Even more amazing, the collection includes 4 million digital titles.

She reported that all these titles are appreciated by the 30,000 active users who visit the library. Her slide presentation showed we had 210,000 visitors last year, and checked out 355,000 physical and digital materials.

Noting that digital apps like Hoopla and Kanopy already allow 24/7 access, Kathryn unveiled a few prototypes of what a new book locker might look like. The examples she showed in her presentation were brightly colored and very appealing, but she notes that the final appearance of the Lincoln library book locker will be determined after a vendor has been selected. The locations, she said, are likely in downtown Lincoln and near the Twelve Bridges library. They will operate similar to Amazon lockers. A patron will order a book from the library's catalogue, and a staff person will add the material to the book locker. The patron will insert the library card when they arrive, any time day or night, and the instructions to retrieve the book will be on the screen. Just one more convenient way to access our library's extensive physical collection.

Officer/Director Reports

Treasurer Gloria Pilotti-Irey - reviewed the goals of the Strategic Plan, which runs from 2023-2025. She noted the areas of continuing improvement that strengthen the organization, such as an updated Board handbook and mentor system and reviewing our policies, bylaws and standing rules each year.

Gloria reported that revenues for 2023 are estimated to come in at about \$80,000, similar to 2022. Book sales make up a larger share of revenues (31%) than prior years. Expenses are expected to be a bit higher than 2022, driven

primarily by fund requests from the library. The primary projects we supported in 2023 include:

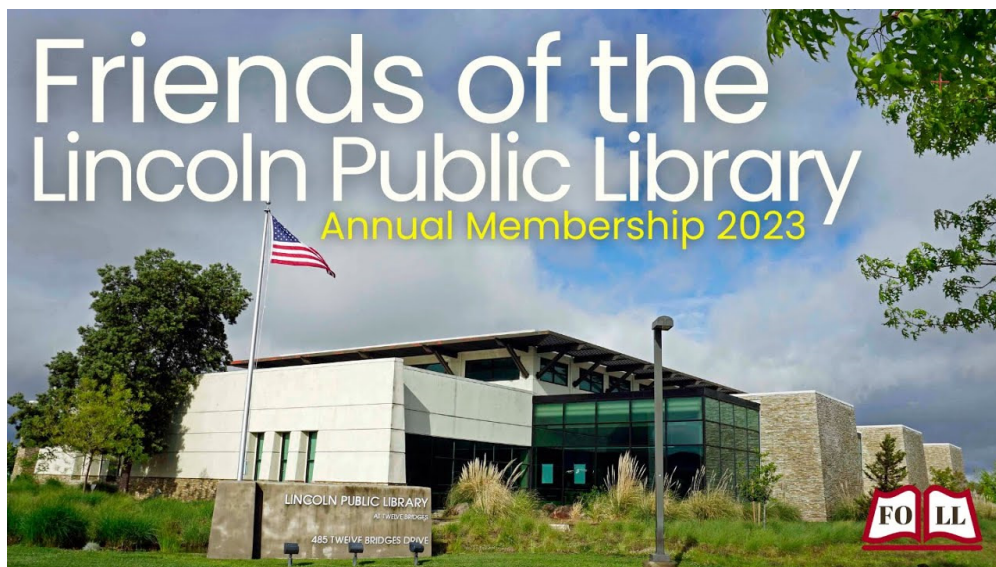
- Read Across Lincoln and other book giveaways
- An increase in funding for Hoopla, a very popular library app, plus Kanopy.
- Additions to the collection, including: law, travel, nonfiction and Spanish titles.
- Funds for Family Art Night, (food, art supplies and performers), which attracted over 500 people to the library.
- New equipment including tech center blinds and new tables for the Homework Center.

Gloria unveiled the proposed budget for 2024, which includes \$35,000 for the book locker, \$5,000 to refurbish the children's library, continuing programs to stimulate kids' joy in reading including Read Across Lincoln and giveaway books, and \$23,000 for the online collection.

Gloria's reports in full are filed separately.

Community Outreach Director Linda Derosier – reported on “The Library, the Friends and the Community”

Linda introduced a short video created by Sam Schlafer. The video highlights



many of the programs, library purchases, teen programs and events created by the library and funded by the Friends.

Newsletter Director Karen Lindh – presented “Be Happy, Be Healthy, Be a Volunteer”

Karen reported that many studies have found that volunteering is good for the body and the mind. She noted how important volunteers are to this library in particular, since without the volunteers the library would need 3.5 additional staff. FOLL volunteers also make a positive contribution to the library through book sale revenues (about 31% of total revenues) along with other outcomes, such as Strategic Planning. Karen described the specific volunteer tasks that are available, from a couple hours per month like Mother Goose on the Loose and Family Movie Night, to a few hours per year such as the Nominating Committee. Book sales may require a lot of hours over a day or two, but they only occur twice per year. So find a task that brings you joy, she recommends, and volunteer.

Election Results - Mary Nader

Mary reported that all the votes cast in the election were for the slate of nominees proposed by the nominating committee:

President - Teresa Lai Stanislaw
Vice President - Dawna Hawksworth
Book Sale Director - Sharon Gorley
Newsletter Director - Karen Lindh

These newly elected Board members, along with the returning members, will be sworn in at the December 12 Board meeting.

Adjournment –

Jo Jones reminded members that they could take a guided tour with Linda Derosier, chat informally with Board members, or take a self-guided tour of the library's art work. She then adjourned the meeting.

Attendees:

Virginia Ayala
Marnie Badgley
Ruth Baylis
Joyce Beeman
Cyrenna Burgess
Neil Cochran
Linda Derosier
Whitney Eklund
Diane Fix
Kathy Ghimenti
Sharon Gorley
Dawna Hawksworth
Cassandra Hawley-Davis
Gloria Pilotti Irey
Jo Jones
Renee Kohler
Kathy Kort
Marilyn Kupcho
Karen Lindh
Mary Makal
Wanda Mellili
Linda Moran
Linda Morley
Mary Nader
Helen Rains
Lynne Rossi
Teresa Lai Stanislaw
Dot West

Submitted by Jeri Chase Ferris, Secretary, from complete notes provided by Karen Lindh. Thank you, Karen.

Next meeting is a regular Board meeting, December 12, 2023, 10:30 a.m. in the Homework Center