

Minutes 9/10/14  
Friends of the Osceola Public Library

Present: Barb Wetzel, Kathie Nelson, Mary Clare Huberty, Sherry Hanson, Steve Schanback, Rebekah Palmer, Cheryl Beardslee, Jodi Roman (new member and 1st time attendee), Mary Roberts (1st time attendee), Jodi Pederson

President Barb Wetzel called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Schanback/Beardslee move/2nd approved August minutes and 9/10/14  
Treasurer's Report as presented.**

Proceeds of the Wheels & Wings Book Sale = \$1,563.60

Comparisons: 2013 W & W Book Sale = \$1,597.72

2014 Rhubarb Days Sale = \$1,148.40

2013 Rhubarb Days Sale = \$1,653.51

FOPL Account Balance (as of 9/10/14) = \$4,689.30

Future commitments: To Library 10/1 = \$500

**Author Event**

Palmer arranged for Dr. Paul Hillmer, Concordia University, author of "A People's History of the Hmong" to speak October 7, 7pm at the Library.

Maximum seating is 35. **All Friends, please talk it up, attend, bring a friend.**  
See Amazon for a good review of the book.

**Hanson/Nelson move/2nd approved \$150 stipend for Dr. Hillmer.**

**Schanback/Hanson move/2nd approved \$60 for ads & posters for event.**

Volunteer Commitments for the Event:

Pederson to notify "Missionary Group" and Osceola High School

Wetzel to contact Glenna to send announcement to media; Barb SUN for ads and posters; will request Kelly acquire books & request a book display, add it to calendar and post info on website.

Hanson and Huberty will put up 20 posters in businesses and bulletin boards.

Beardslee to provide crackers; Roman - cheese; Wetzel - juice, Roberts - bars.

**Book Sale**

Positives:

- McElrath arranged for Greener Read to take all culled books because they haven't sold for two years or more or that aren't likely to sell. GR will sell the better quality ones and recycle the rest. This is a significant savings of volunteer time sorting and moving books.
- It was easy to step in as a cashier.
- The new price A-frame and the big Romance sign.
- That the big A-frame signs were moved for the day of the Sale to make it easier for non-locals to find the Sale.
- The large number of volunteers during the day.
- The woodblocks for leveling the tables.

Things to work on:

- Need more "muscle" for set up and take down.

- Category signs on the tables need improvement.
- A large sign high on north side of Library in advance of Sale.

Ideas for future Sales:

- Volunteer sign up sheet at Library front counter.
- Ask the Homeschool network for volunteers.
- A highly visible "walkway" in back of Library to attract Craft Sale customers.
- Put large A-frames on top of strategically parked cars on day of Sale.
- Large A-frames need repair, replacement or new "text" (they're very worn).

Storage:

- The Village's storage space is unusable. RCU is considering a proposal for storing books in its lower level. If approved, Hanson will coordinate moving the books from Village space. This would save the monthly storage unit cost.

New Revenue Possibility: Barb is talking with a Book Dealer (and Friends member) about possible access to our non-fiction books prior to future Sales in exchange for a percentage of their projected online selling price. The idea is that we'd move more "high value" non-fiction and get more than our current \$1 per book.

Schanback will follow up with the UTNE reader about possible future donations.

**Act 150:** A team of Library Directors will be meeting with the General Government Committee of the Polk County Board regarding how the Libraries in the County would spend a proposed increase in funding. A phase-in approach is being considered. The idea is to get a proposal before the County Board for action this month or in October. Watch for future info, including possible request to attend Town, Village and County meetings. If you personally know your County Board member, let Barb Wetzel know.

**Polk County Libraries Joint Friends Meeting:** We are hosting this all county meeting on November 1 from 10 to Noon. The primary topic is the grant for technology classes in the County's Libraries. There will be a need for volunteers to provide food and drink, tableware, etc. Watch for future info. Contact Wetzel if you want to help.

**Next Meeting: October 8, 5:30 at the Library. Main agenda items:**

**Membership and** an update on the future building project by Village Administrator Joel West. At the November meeting, we will need volunteers to step up to fill officer positions in 2015.

**Library News:**

- Steve will talk with Kelly about the Friends column in the Library newsletter.
- The YAC is the recipient of the September coffee and cookie sales at Central Bank.
- Two volunteers are needed to work with Kelly and Joel in the Snack Shack this Saturday the 13 Movie in the Park; Jodi Roman volunteered.

Submitted by Steve Schanback, Acting Notetaker