



**Friends of the Modesto Library
Board of Directors Meeting
2 September 2020
Zoom Conference**

Meeting called to order at 3:00 p.m. by President Pat Glatke on Zoom, due to ongoing COVID-19 concerns.

Officers and Directors present: Anne Britton, Cande Brody, Ellen Dambrosio, Marilyn Drew, Jonaca Driscoll, Pat Glatke, Maree Hawkins, Jean Haven, Judy Sly Herrero, Pam Pallios, Cathie Peck, Judy Pierce, Beverly Schlegel; and Modesto Library Manager Chris Moreno.

MINUTES The June meeting was via email. All agenda items and appendices were reviewed by email and act as minutes for the meeting as they were approved overwhelmingly by email vote in lieu of an in-person meeting of the board.

REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Pat Glatke

Used Book Sale

The regularly scheduled book sale in May was cancelled due to COVID-19. We had tentatively scheduled another one for October 24. However, the library will be remodeling the handicap ramps in October and it is unlikely that we will be able to hold a sale at that time. Without a firm date for completion, we would not have time to advertise. The executive team discussed alternative locations and other ideas, but reluctantly decided to forego the event. We have a warehouse FULL of books, and are not taking in books now, with the exception of any large selection of children's books as we can distribute them without a book sale.

Barnes & Noble Book Fair

Due to the COVID crisis, this is not available now or in the immediate future.

National Friends of Libraries Week

Our practice for the last several years has been to get together board members to write Thank You notes to our volunteers. Personally, I have missed the opportunity to gather around and do this project as a team. Once again, we are unable to volunteer.

Votes for Women

Mistlin Gallery (currently closed) was holding a special exhibit for "VOTES FOR WOMEN" 100-year anniversary. They were able to hold it by invitation with masks and social distancing and limiting the number of attendees. Denise and I [Pat] were fortunate to attend. If you would like to do a tour, please contact Henrietta Sparkman for the Sept 10 tour at 1pm. She can be reached at (209) 521-8336 or Sparkman.h@gmail.com. It is well done by local artists and poets from Pen Women. Some masked book loving women delivered books for patrons to peruse which covered the history of Women's voting rights over the last 100 years. Anyone want to fess up? (Perhaps it was Library staff.)

Book Give-Away

Denise coordinated with SCOE, Rep. Josh Harder’s office and other groups to present children with backpacks filled with school supplies. FOML distributed used books with our bookplates selected from the FOML warehouse collection. Marilyn solicited volunteers. Jean and Beverly helped Pat with the handout.

TREASURER’S REPORT SUMMARY: Jonaca Driscoll

Quarterly Report: June 1 - August 31, 2019

Expenses:	\$ 1,762.82
Income:	\$ 4,843.72
FOML Checking Account:	\$ 28,865.83
FOML Savings Account:	\$ <u>1,678.63</u>
TOTAL ASSETS:	\$ 30,543.86

Fiscal Year: July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Expenses:	\$ 17,160.22
Income:	\$ 15,102.66
FOML Checking Account:	\$ 27,889.80
FOML Savings Account:	\$ <u>1,478.61</u>
TOTAL ASSETS:	\$ 29,568.41

Income did not include major corporate donations and resulted in about \$5,000 less income than the year before.

Library Requests

The quarterly dispersal for Library requests as adjusted in the adopted 2020/2021 budget have been discussed in consultation with Modesto Library Manager Chris Moreno. Although the downturn in sales tax revenue may affect library services, the fall requests still stand.

ACTION TAKEN: A motion by Anne, seconded by Jonaca was approved unanimously to release to the library the full current quarterly disbursements of \$5,600 as part of the previously approved budget.

Grants

Ellen introduced text-to-donate, a form-based mobile fundraising method she, Denise, and Maree have researched. Donors initiate a gift via text before visiting a mobile form to complete their donation. Companies exist to make this easy for organizations, like Qgiv. Ellen suggested we pay \$129 to try their *Mobile Suite* service for one month as a pilot project. Ellen, Denise, and Maree will pursue this and decide on an optimal month to try it.

ACTION TAKEN: On a motion by Ellen, seconded by Jonaca the request to spend \$129 for a pilot project was approved unanimously.

LIBRARIAN’S REPORT: Chris Moreno

Staff/Library Updates

Uncertainty persists, but here are some updates, statistics and projections.

- 21 library staff from throughout the system are assigned as disaster emergency operations like COVID-19 contact tracing.
- 46,000 items have circulated from Modesto Library since its closure in March.
- 112,000 items system-wide have circulated in the same period.
- Due dates for borrowed books are extended to six weeks. Fines that may inaccurately accrue because of the delayed ‘cooling off’ period on return can be forgiven by calling the library.
- Curbside craft kits are being distributed at Modesto in September.
- Wi-fi strength has been extended to cover the parking lot and is available from 8-8 M-Sun.
- Digital library cards are available to anyone, with no need to enter the library.
- Print on demand for curbside pick-up, “PrinterOn”, is accessible through the library’s website or app store.
- Maker Space and remodeling of the back ramp to the portico are scheduled for this fall and thus the portico use is limited.
- As the library moves into a new level of opening, a first phase may mean closed stacks and a limited number of computers available.
- All in-house events have been cancelled until January at least.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Ellen Dambrosio

Membership Tally (as of Aug. 31, 2020)

Renewals are coming in slowly. About 20 recent renewals are the result of Exec Board members calling or writing to some members they knew personally who had not yet renewed this year.

- As of Aug. 31, 2020, we have 113 paid 2020 memberships. For comparison purposes, last year at this time we had 127.
- We have 35 members who paid dues in 2019 but have not yet renewed.

Plans for Increasing 2020 Membership

- A list of those needing to renew will be circulated to the full board in hopes a contact will spur a renewal.
- It would be great if each board member could bring in one new member this year.
- As always, an article will appear in each newsletter. The emailed newsletter will always have a clickable button to make donating easy for those willing to pay dues online, or at least to commit online then send in a check.
- I will send reminder emails periodically.

Business Memberships

I will send to local businesses. We’ll let them know that, even though the building is locked, the library is still doing good work and needs community support.

HALLOWEEN

Cande led a discussion of possible substitutes for the annual Halloween event of story time and costume parade / trick-or-treating through the library. Ideas included trunk-or-treat in the parking lot, online art submission with a fall theme, and some form of drive by book give-away. Given the complications of the COVID-19 era both for the library and for personal safety, the consensus was to forego a 2020 event.

FOOTNOTES

With the uncertain flux of library services, FOML will issue an interim news bulletin to members with a September or October issue of the email *Footnotes* update. Maree will coordinate anything the board submits for publication.

SCHOLASTIC SALES REPORT: Anne

No in-house sale was possible or is likely to be possible in 2020. Alternative virtual online book fairs were held, one during May and a summer one from May 22-Sept. 4. The May 2020 virtual book fair accrued about \$200 and the summer fair estimate is about \$1000 in credit.

Exact figures are not yet available, but together with past fairs including the November 2019 virtual book fair, FOML's **current credit balance is \$4,308.89** with Scholastic. Normally, books would be purchased in support of Día De Los Niños/Libros using Scholastic credit. The event was not possible in April and because there is no likelihood of in-person events in the foreseeable future, the books already in hand were given out by Annie Snell at library outreach events at local "feeding schools" this summer. Anne suggested that some of the current balance be used for this type of visit in the fall, if the library needs more books.

ACTION TAKEN: A motion by Jonaca, seconded by Judy Herrero was approved to use up to \$1000 of Scholastic "Dollars" to purchase books for the library's Youth Outreach Services.

Anne will query Annie Snell to develop selection criteria and will place an order, if books are needed.

NEXT MEETING: December 4, 2020

Agenda Items:

- Receipt of library requests
- Annual Membership Meeting planning
- Nominating Committee
- Library Tours responsibilities
- Scholastic Book Fair report

ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on 2 December 2020.

Anne Britton, Secretary