



## **Friends of the Murrieta Library General Meeting**

**Tuesday March 15, 2022**

**Directors in Attendance: Rita Nastri, Nancy Dixon, Pat Farmer, Karen Michaud, Dan Rexwinkel, Kurt Korneisel**

**Also in attendance: Maggie Pilotte, Kiki Fritschi, Judy Call, Melvin Racelis & Laura Davis**

- 1. Call to Order: President Rita Nastri called the meeting to order at 10:00am, welcoming everyone and thanking the new Board members for their willingness to volunteer. Those present observed 15 seconds of silence in honor of departed Friends and the people of Ukraine.**

**Rita announced that Eleanor Newhard, made a generous donation in memory of her husband, Bob, who passed away December 30.**

**Rita introduced Melvin Racelis, the new Library Manager, and thanked Agnes Rita for serving as the interim Library Manager since July 2021. Melvin stated that he is honored to serve the Murrieta community and thanked the Friends for their support to the Library over the years.**

**Rita reminded everyone that the Friends will meet in the odd-numbered months, including July, and will have a holiday party in December.**

**She also noted that we are seeking volunteers to serve as Hospitality Chair.**

- 2. Minutes: Approval of the minutes of the November 9, 2021 General Meeting was tabled until the May 17, 2022 meeting. Mary Lou Rothacher and Kurt Korneisel volunteered to review the minutes from this meeting; one more volunteer is needed.**

- 3. Treasurer's report: Treasurer Dan Rexwinkel reported that the financial records for the month of February 2022 look good; the financial reports are attached.**

Rita noted that Dan also edits and publishes the FOML newsletter, BookNotes.

- 4. Library update: Laura Davis, Adult Services Librarian, presented some of the upcoming events at the library:**
  - **Ongoing programs: Preschool Storytime, Love on a Leash (children reading to dogs), and Library for All**
  - **Tuesday, March 29, 2022, 4 pm: Teen Safety In-Person Training for grades 7 - 12**
  - **Saturday, April 9, 2022, 10 am - noon: Celebration of Earth Day along with Library's 23<sup>rd</sup> Birthday which is April 10— all ages—includes a plant trade, tree give-away, etc.**
  - **Adults: Take home kits through Spring; in-house programming resumes in Summer**
  - **Summer Reading Challenge begins June 6, 2022**

Laura also reported on Grant Programs for which the Library is applying or has received:

- **Building Forward Library Infrastructure Program— applying for about \$1.2 million for construction of a Storytime room and expansion of the Children's area into part of the garden area.**
- **Library Gaming Project—applying for opportunity to collaborate with local game stores and tabletop game publishers to provide gaming events and add tabletop board games to the Library's collection.**
- **Inspiration Grant—applying for \$3,600 in additional funding for the Library for All program, an interactive program for adults and teens with disabilities.**
- **Dia de los Niños/Dia de los Libros: \$500 reimbursement grant.**
- **Neighborhood Forest and Library collaboration to distribute free trees at April 9 Earth Day/Library Birthday celebration.**
- **Zip Book program is receiving a lot of requests for books. Funds must be used by June 30, 2022. Zip Book request form available at [bit.ly/murzipbooks](https://bit.ly/murzipbooks)**

**Other Library news:**

- **Library will be closed Saturday, April 2, for Tour de Murrieta.**
- **Many items added to Library of Things collection.**
- **Library has received many new Spanish materials from the Guadalajara Book Fair, including original books from Central and South American countries.**

- 5. Membership: Karen Michaud reported that the Friends welcomed four new members in February: Aihwa Dillaway, Leticia Mendoza, Shari Gale and Stephanie Hubbard.**

**The annual membership renewal drive will take place in June.**

- 6. Corner Bookstore updates: Nancy Dixon reported the financials for the store which included the proceeds of a very successful sidewalk sale and a \$400 donation from Southern California Edison based on volunteer hours worked by its employees. Financial details are attached. Nancy also announced the Corner Bookstore's selection by Inland Empire magazine as a Best of the Best bookstore in the area.**

- 7. Town Square store updates: Maggie Pilotte reported the financials for the store. The store is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10am to 4pm. More volunteers are needed. Financial details are attached.**

- 8. Programs: Rita presented lovely glass plaques to the outgoing Program Chairs, Maggie Pilotte and Judy Call, and thanked them for their work over the last several years. Maggie noted they had presented over 100 programs.**

**Kiki Fritschi, the current Program Chair, indicated she is going to present some programs designed to attract some younger people, especially parents of young children who attend Library programs, with the hope that they will join the Friends and volunteer at the Library and the Friends bookstores.**

**March is National Nutrition Month, and this meeting's speaker is author (and former nun) Mary Lou Reid, talking about her book, "Always Eat Dessert and 6 more Weight Loss and Lifestyle Habits I Learned in the Convent."**

**At the May 17, 2022 meeting during National Physical Fitness and Sports Month, the program will focus on improving our fitness with demonstrations of Dynamic Fitness and coaching by a golf professional.**

**July is National Culinary Arts Month. Kiki is working on a program highlighting local culinary schools and chefs.**

- 9. Publicity: Rita reported on current publicity efforts and welcomed the many Colony residents attending this meeting.**
- 10. Special Events: Pat Farmer reported that she is seeking ideas for fundraising events.**

**The Murrieta Fire and Rescue Barbeque will be held Saturday, April 23, 12noon – 6 pm in Town Square Park. They will be celebrating the event's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary after a two-year pandemic hiatus. Volunteers are needed to staff the Friends' booth to sell books and promote membership. Tickets for the barbeque lunch can be pre-purchased online at a discount.**

- 11. Webmaster: Rita thanked Dan Rexwinkel for being the Webmaster, producing Eblasts to members, and posting events on Facebook.**
- 12. Old business: None**
- 13. New business: Member, Mila Asperin, welcomed Kiki Fritschi as the new Program Chair and looks forward to future programs.**

**Adjourned at: 10:40am**

**Respectfully submitted  
Judy Call, Acting Secretary**