

CALAVERAS COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

April 25, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President Jack Kuhn at 9:05 a.m.

ATTENDING: Commissioners Jack Kuhn, Kate Garrahan, Elaine Maxwell, Sheila Neal, and Bob Dean
County Librarian Nancy Giddens,

Absentee: Commissioners Sally Tuttle and Connie Bowser

Also in attendance: Supervisor Debbie Ponte, Cathy Kuhn and Mary Cole

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment

MINUTES: The minutes from the March 28, 2016 commission meeting were reviewed; a motion made by Elaine and seconded by Sheila to approve the minutes with corrections to the spelling of Cathy Kuhn and Sheila Neal's names.

CORRESPONDENCE: None received.

LIBRARIANS REPORT: Nancy let the Commission know there is a 49-99 meeting in Stockton on May 12, 2016. She and Bob Dean will be attending. The county budget hearing is June 13, 2016 and the library budget is \$413,000. One of her concerns is there is only \$350 budgeted for materials. She would like to have a designated account, which would have to be approved by the Supervisors, where any carry over is put in the same account each year. She has met with Shireley Huberty about FOTL having a designated book budget.

Having volunteers in the libraries without a paid staff member is against county policy and she is working on an allotment to cover this issue. A designated county fund would pay staff and the FOTL would be billed for those hours.

Nancy is seeking statistics on spending, usage and any other information she can gather for years 2013 to the present. She will be working with Siskiyou County Librarian to discuss how their library system is being run. They are a county similar to Calaveras County in geography, population and funding.

Sheila expressed concern that the County expects FOTL groups to fund staffing positions. Nancy stated it is unusual for FOTL to pay staff, they traditionally supplement with books, materials, etc. The goal is to have a transparent budget for all Supervisors and County staff to be aware of the FOTL staff funding.

The goal is for the libraries to become information and sustenance for the county and become an essential service within a two to three year period.

Debbie Ponte agreed with Nancy on educating the public by communicating the services available and libraries becoming community centers. Funding is an issue due to shortages in the County budget.

REPORTING TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: Kate presented the attached report to be reviewed by the commissioners for presentation to the BOS. A correction to the third paragraph, changing the word with to will was pointed out by Sheila. Sheila made a motion and a second by Bob to approve the report with the correction. Motion was unanimously approved. It will be submitted with the PAC brochure for inclusion on the May 24, 2016 or the May 31, 2016 meeting. Debbie suggested the commissioners attend the meeting to be introduced to the board.

There was discussion of the FOTL, PAC and commission membership overlap. Bob shared there had been a disconnect between the groups in the past. The relationships are much improved and with the overlap there is a better understanding of needs of all branches in the system. FOTL groups make their own decisions but are informed of the services and needs of the library. An example of this would be purchasing a power generator to use in emergency situations which FOTL would pay for and the county would manage.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

Bob will be holding an open garden at his home on May 14 and 15.

Kate shared Valley Springs has some events coming up, a magician on May 16 and the summer reading program begins June 6.

A motion to adjourn was made by Sheila, seconded by Bob. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55.

Next Commission meeting is May 23, 2016 at 9:00am.

Submitted by,
Kate Garrahan