

Friends of the Emporia Public Library

July 28, 2025

FOL Building

July 2025 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by President, Dee Schwinn, at 5:00 p.m.

Present: President, Dee Schwinn; Secretary Becky Sellers, Treasurer Jan Ralston, Library Director Pauline Stacchini, Ron Sellers, Kathleen Dalton, Cindy Durbin

Board members absent: Vice President Ellen Klotz, Emporia Library Board representative Heather Caswell, Jessica Hopkins, Harvey Foyle, Vicki Brooks, Sandy Weeks

Approval of the Agenda: Kathleen moved and Ron seconded to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

Approval of the Minutes: Jan moved and Ron seconded to approved the agenda. Motion passed.

Approval of the Treasurer's Report: Please see the electronic version of the Treasurer's report. Kathleen moved and Cindy seconded to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion passed.

Reports:

Membership: Vicki was not present to give a report. Jan reported there have been a few new memberships since the reminder letters went out but membership is still down from last year.

Book Sorters: Kathleen presented the report. There were 99.5 hours worked in June. Ruth has resigned as book sorter chair and from the board. Ellen and Kathleen have agreed to be book sorter co-chairs. There is a need for additional book sorters as several sorters have been absent due to illness and vacation. Dee requested that Becky write a note to Ruth from the board thanking her for her service to the FOL.

Book Sale: Dee suggested that due to the recent large book donations that we consider an additional First Friday/Flash book sale for September. Cindy moved and Ron seconded that we have these sales Friday, 9/5 from 5-8 p.m. and Saturday, 9/6 from 9-12 noon. Motion carried. Dee will send this information to the board members and will work on a schedule for the sales. The regular October sale is 10/17-22. Cindy will obtain additional paper bags from Good's for these sales.

Library Board: Heather was not present, but Dee reported that the board discussed the remodel of the EPL bathrooms among other topics.

Executive Director: Pauline reported that the new shelving for the Children's area is almost complete. The library will be closed 8/21-22 for maintenance. Pauline presented information on the possible development of an online merchandise store for FOL. Two companies that can provide this service are Bonfire and Janway. There is no upfront cost and the items are printed on demand. The FOL will receive a percentage of the item's cost. Dee reported that Jessica has volunteered to assist with the development of this venture if the board decides to go forward with it. Pauline will do more research on the two companies and discuss options with Jessica. Further discussion will be held at future FOL board meetings. It was mentioned that items could be used as future gifts for drawings at FOL events.

Jan reported that these sales should not pose a problem with income as the dollar amount for total sales is above what we will most likely receive from the sales.

Unfinished Business:

Match Day: Dee made the Emporia Community Foundation required video on 7/23 with help from Pauline. There is a possible need to update the EPL Facebook page according to the Emporia Community Foundation. Pauline will check into this.

Middle Ground Books: There is no specific new information, but Jan did report that there have been three checks from Middle Ground for approximately \$150.

New Business

New FOL merchandise opportunity: Cindy moved that we explore library themed promotional merchandise opportunities through Janway or Bonfire. Jan seconded. Motion passed.

Community Fair at the Tech College: There is a community fair at the Tech College on 9/3 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This will be held inside this year. This would provide opportunities to advertise future book sales and EPL and FOL membership. There is also the Block Party for ESU on 8/18 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. This is held downtown. The board decided to participate in both events. Dee will follow-up with board members about participation.

For the Good of the board: Pauline will check with the City about progress on the roof replacement for the Friends building, use of electrical outlets in the western room since the roof leaks and the status of the building being painted.

The EPL has donated several plastic chairs from the EPL Children's room. These can be sold at the next book sale.

Next meeting 8/25 at 5:00 p.m. in the EPL Large Meeting Room

Cindy moved and Ron seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.