



**Minute Meeting Notes
9-11-24**

**Mendocino
County Library
Advisory Board**

Library Advisory Board Minutes from Coast Community Library on 9-11-24

Members Present: Olga O'Neill - Vice Chair, Michele Savoy - Chair, Linda Thornquist Stumpf, Larry Riddle, Susan Sher, Lew Chichester, Michael Schaeffer, Mellisa Hannum – County Librarian

Virtual Members Present: Roseanne Wetzel – Recording Secretary

Guests Present: Lily Rojo – Department Application Specialist, Chas Higgins a Friends of the Library of Coast Community Library

1. Call to Order 1:15 PM
2. Motion by Michael to amend the Agenda to approve a Virtual attendance due to a Medical Emergency for Roseanne Wetzel.
 - a. Agenda amended approval motion 1st by Michael, 2nd by Olga . Approved
3. Motion to approve previous minutes: 1st by Larry, 2nd by Lew. Approved
4. Public Comment: N/A
5. County Librarian/Director Report: Mellisa Hannum: discussed Round Valley Public Library receiving the 2024 Best Small Library award from the [Library Journal](#). Sent the info to the Board of Supervisors & [Mendocino Voice](#) and [MendoFever](#) wrote an article on this as well. Discussed the focus of Mendocino County Library vs/and Round Valley Public Library – similarities and differences for county focus vs/and small library. Example: Seed Libraries. Discussed Libraries being community hubs, and Round Valley is a perfect example of that. \$5,000.00 cash reward, but still unsure the specifics on receiving this. Lew and Josh are in discussion on this. Per Community Hubs: Willits—re the safe and healthy community initiative has a Senior Dance program. Ukiah has a Japanese sashiko mending course – re a thriving economy as it's leaning into reuse, renew, recycling and decorative coasters. Coast – as the Hubs and Routes initiative has been focusing on readiness and connecting ppl for emergency situations & had the Pt. Arena Fire Safe meeting last Wednesday to work on getting the community Fire Safe Certified with the Fire Safe Council of Mendocino.



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6. Administrative Services Manager's updates- updated by Mellisa Hannum as Barb was unable to attend:
 - a. Pulling together information, photos, data for the annual report.
 - b. Please review on your own.
 - c. Date to request for BOS agenda item for LAB and Library Annual Reports: December 3rd, deadline November 15th
 - d. Student Success Cards: through the CA State Library- most libraries are focusing on 4th grade, but Mendocino County Library system will be focusing on all ages- and partnering with school districts. Dan and Mellisa will run the pilot project on this for Fort Bragg and Coast Community. Goal: build literacy. Studies have shown that kids with library cards in the 4th grade and above show higher success rates overall. There's an MOU draft that's already approved by County Council to be used for the partnership with the school districts and the superintendents. Is an additional card with more restrictions on student success card- electronic card & less Checkouts.
 - e. New Library Cards re library card sign up month, there are also hiking backpacks ppl can check out from the CA State Library & a diverse bookclub book selection chosen and sent to branches from the CA State Library.
 - f. Next Classification Studies will be taking place- most likely in October, to review increase in salary. Asked if the LAB is interested in talking to BOS in support? All agree to the intent to approve, when it does go forward.
 - g. Olga Question: Willits Roof: Any Updates? Yes to solar panels, & if the work gets pushed out to winter, due to the grade of the roof- that won't be a problem. Facilities is working with a contracting company specifically on the Willits Roof, but no update outside of what was stated above.
 - h. Michele Question: Budget Question re A87
 - Last Year: 148 thousand
 - This Year: 367 thousand

Request NEXT AGENDA: Michele requested to see a breakdown for the A87 costs/charges.
7. Coast Community Library Branch Librarian report – Mellisa Hannum



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Lots of changes in this last year. Mellisa is the official county librarian, brought on more staff. Teen programming has been expanding: Teen advisory council, Teen hangout, D&D, Storytelling, Magic the Gathering, Tweens Tuesday Crafting event. 30 Outreach visits last year in the community. As part of the community hub, Coast Community has been participating in festivals, parade, school visits, & almost fringe festival. Celebrated the 2nd year of the summertime Lunch at the Library series, passed out backpacks and notebooks as the final summer reading prize to 51 kids and teens to help them get started for the school year feeling more prepared.

Discussed Banned Books Week: why important to highlight challenged or banned books & statistics for top 10 books banned or challenged for 2023/2024 and the themes that can be seen from this: Diversity & LGBTQIA are the 2 main themes. Celebrate Banned Books Week from Sept. 22nd-28th

8. Unfinished Business

- a. Michael: bio needed
- b. Nothing to report
- c. No updates- keep on agenda. Rosie unsuccessful on email responses, will try a phone call next

9. New Business

a. Follow-up Re Fort Bragg:

Michael asked for Fort Bragg Library updates: Linda- they will be following and building Plan B. Linda went to the Fort Bragg Friends of the Library meeting last month and 2 Plans were pitched through the Committee for Expansion which had met. Janice had talked to Dan Gjerde who had said he would attend the meeting, but then didn't. No loan will be pursued at this point, but Fort Bragg FOL will finance the addition & will work out the lease at a later date as Fort Bragg FOL own the lot the addition will be made on. Still a lot of funds that will need to be raised. Fort Bragg FOL and County Planning will be involved. Currently have 1 million 70 thousand at last count, though a few bequeaths have come in since the last count. Are not planning to connect buildings. Will have a conference/media room, volunteers' room, bathroom, food prep area. Prop O funds can help be used for



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parking & landscaping.

Discussed USDA Grants- Linda to take the USDA Grants idea to the Fort Bragg FOL.

b. Ukiah: Mural is in progress. Fundraising campaign for \$7,500 Friends of the Library are working with the City of Ukiah for an external bookdrop, still waiting on the Feasibility Study

c. Round Valley Public Library: Lew! What Fort Bragg is doing now is what Round Valley was doing 15 years ago. 1.2 million (not fact checked) received from the US Dept. Of Ag Rural Assistance Program: they helped by all the furnishings inside the library. The USDA bought solar panels and backup generators. Covelo Public Library originally was in a laundromat, got sponsored by the County Library & had a good relationship with the tribal council & they had a library, too. Decided to combine the two and named it the Round Valley Public Library, as the name Round Valley was inclusive to tribal members. Building had originally been a restaurant. Was decided the library was the anchor of the building, but was able to have a commercial kitchen/cafe, and large meeting room. The Library Journal editor did a series of interviews. Focused on how inclusive and collaborative with different self-identifying groups in Round Valley the library is. Patron majority is diverse and has a high low-income ratio. The library helps support these groups and meets their needs. Ree Slocum took the photos for the pictures.

d. Bylaws: final version with signature: no action needed

e. Larry: Outdoors Bookdrop—State of CA is surveying Point Arena with a focus on the American Disability Act & will be looking at redesigning the highway.

10. Meeting Adjourned at 2:47 PM

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 13th at Ukiah Branch Library Outreach and Bookmobile

Agenda for Next Meeting:

1. Breakdown for the A87 costs/charges
2. LAB member bios, optional photo, few lines about why on LAB
3. Updates on Friends of the Libraries Outreach
4. District Updates



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