

**Minutes of General Meeting FRVPL  
Friday, April 3, 2015**

**Attending:**

Pat Sobrero  
Ed TePas  
Larry Fugman  
Carol Borden  
Lew Chichester  
Michael Mills  
Sally Brown  
Gus Evans  
Josh Bennett, library associate  
Mary Lou Mileck

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

March minutes were approved.

**Signs:** Michael

Drawings for proposed signs were presented.

Paperback Café, which will be the new coffee shop, would have a double-sided sign panel that would hang on a bracket at the west end of the building arcade roof at the porch roof, facing both the east and the west. The bracket would be purchased by the Friends, as well as a panel with the basket band designs that would have interchangeable signage capacity. The coffee shop proprietor would furnish their logo to place there. The bracket would be fabricated by Bruce and cost \$300. The panel would cost \$347.

Also proposed would be a large sign that would say “Round Valley Commons” to put over the north side doors. Two smaller signs, one saying “Commons Community Room” and the other saying “Round Valley Commons” would go next to the corresponding exterior doors. This would be helpful to people who weren’t familiar with the location of the community room, as distinguished from the library.

A motion was passed to budget \$1,100 on signage.

It was confirmed that a glassed in, locked bulletin board for library use had been previously approved for the north east corner of the building.

**Building maintenance:**

Pressure washing and refinishing the building had also been previously approved. Valley Paving will give us a bid on re-asphalting the parking areas on the east and north side of the building and re-stripping on the east side in front of the library. The county does not consider this to be their responsibility.

We will schedule a building committee meeting with Izzy, Carol, Lew, Larry and Michael in three weeks. One thing on the agenda will be creating a position of responsibility for the park and farmers market and finding someone who is willing to do that.

**Friends office/storage space:** Lew:

The storeroom has been cleared out and is ready to make into an office. Lew and Michael will work on that. The area needs to be cleaned up and painted and venting put in. We will get a carpet and desk.

**USDA grant:** Lew:

The completed grant has been submitted and \$30,000 will be deposited into our bank account. We have been encouraged to apply again with another request to fund equipment and maybe landscaping, but not right away. We need a new person to take that on, as Diann is no longer going to do that. Many thanks to Diann for all the great work she has done to get grants and donations that have made the Library Commons possible!

**Radio report:** Lew

The interview with our county supervisor, Tom Woodhouse, went well. The station crew is working to get more local community affairs programing.

**Blackberry Festival report:** Mary Lou:

The festival is doing well, financially. Last year, they grossed between \$13,000 and \$14,000. They have a total of about \$20,000 accrued in their bank account. They will give their financial report to Joe for the tax accountant.

**Coffee Shop:** Gus:

The coffee shop will work with the building committee instead of regularly attending the Friends monthly meeting.

**Library report:** Josh:

RVPL has a new Library Associate. My name is Josh Bennett and my first day at our branch was March 17th. My background is in education, specifically, I've worked with middle and high school students in a variety of settings and subject matters, such as natural history, earth sciences, marine biology, nutrition, and gardening. I love the job so far and am grateful for the warm reception I've received from the community in Round Valley.

Final interviews for the library assistant job were held in Round Valley on Tuesday, March 17th. (My first day of work!) Our selection announcement was made the following day: Shakti Ma got the job. Before getting the library assistant job, Shakti was an employee at the library since December. Her official title was extra help. For five years before that, Shakti volunteered at RVPL shelving books often times for hours a day. If you've ever looked for a book at our branch, and found it where it was supposed to be, you have Shakti to thank.

Pat has been acting Library Associate since Rachel left in January. As I have started as our new Library Associate, Pat has been keeping up with daily administrative operations, assistance of patrons, collection maintenance, promotion and maintenance of the seed library, and, most

importantly to me, training the new guy. Pat's patience and vast knowledge of library operations have been invaluable to me the last two weeks as I've worked to learn my new job. A million thanks to Pat!

The Juvenile fiction and non-fiction sections at RVPL grew with new acquisitions in March. Funds from the Community Foundation were used to purchase books, with an emphasis on Spanish language editions.

Changes at the Library Commons seems to us to have reduced foot traffic at the library in March. At the beginning of the month, after "the coffee shop" served their last cup, foot traffic dropped noticeably. The current coffee service in the commons, which started about mid-month, has increased traffic again, but perhaps not yet to the level experienced before the transition.

We are excited to be moving closer to offering video gaming at the RVPL. Protocols and policies are near completion. We aim to offer the use of the Wii gaming equipment for use at the library in the media room one or two days a week, depending on patron interest. Patrons can sign up for gaming for 1 hour intervals.

The Round Valley Library Commons celebrated its 5th birthday on the March 21st. The theme of the party was "music of the 60s and 70s". Food and drinks were available and live music played until very late. Judging from conversations around the library overheard the following week, the party was a huge success and folks had a lot of fun.

Finally, a new development in March was the addition of the New York Times and the Press Democrat to our periodical collection. The San Francisco Cornicle and Wall street Journal will be added soon. Additionally, a few new Magazines have been added thanks to gift subscriptions from generous patrons and complimentary subscriptions offered by the publishers themselves. About 14 new subscriptions were added recently. Magazines can be checked out, Newspapers cannot. Newspaper delivery has been a bit inconsistent—since the Times has started it has been anywhere from "day of" to "3 days old." The county is looking into fixing this inconsistency.

Other programming coming soon to RVPL:

Story time starts April 17th 2:00 pm.

Poetry reading in May

Summer reading starts in June, with outreach and promotion starting in May.

### **Seed Library: Pat**

With the hire of our new Associate, Josh Bennett, we've been able to get Seed Library events back on the schedule.

During the winter season we received three large donations from seed companies: Baker Creek, Peaceful Valley, and Botanical Interests. These seeds have been integrated into our stores, and expired seed has been weeded out.

Extras of any variety have been bagged and labeled, and stored in the seed fridge for medium-term storage. This year, as the planting dates for each type of plant passes, we plan to store those seeds in the fridge to slow their aging.

We had one planting party in March which served about 50 patrons and plan three in April: the second and fourth Fridays during Farmers Market and also a table at the Tribes' first Earth Day Celebration.

Last Saturday, Briana Kaufmann held a garage sale and donated \$200 of the proceeds to the Seed Library!

The seed library is seeing renewed participation. Currently, we have about 100 Members checking out and/or donating seed. Our seed library Facebook page has over 1300 fans.

**Sustainability Movie Series Report: Pat:**

Movie Night next Friday night: **THE RUSSIAN RIVER: ALL RIVERS** – The Value of An American Watershed explores the diverse forces which have come to shape California's iconic rivers — forces which impact rivers and watersheds throughout the world. It examines how the Russian River and the Eel River have been used, and what the consequences of that use have been. By looking at the effects of mining, logging, fishing, agriculture, diversion and development, the film conveys a historical perspective for the rivers' condition. Scientists, educators, policy makers, activists and citizens offer their perspectives on how this resource has been used and managed.

As we consider the policies and actions that have shaped the watershed, the film looks to the future by offering solutions and implores viewers to offer their own. What do we need to change in ourselves to again live in balance with this life-sustaining resource?

The film shows next Friday night at 7:30, here in the Community Room. It runs 2 hours, so bring a pillow. I hope you can make it!

A more modern BluRay player has been purchased, as the one we currently have cannot play this movie. \$82.94 was approved for this.

**Fundraising: Larry:**

The March 21 anniversary party was a successful event. There were as many as 100 people involved in putting it on. Larry is in the process of identifying and thanking them all individually. \$3,000 was grossed.

George Helmholtz donated \$250 to sponsor someone to go to an oral history project workshop. Bill Cull will go to the next offered one in the fall.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm

**Next meeting: May 1 at 5pm**

Submitted by Carol Borden, secretary, FRVPL