

**Minutes of General Meeting FRVPL
Friday, September 4, 2015**

Attending:

Pat Sobrero
Carol Borden
Lew Chichester
Josh Bennett
Mary Lou Mileck
Madeleine Shepherd
Michael Shepherd
Joe Gauder
Colleen Carter
Gus Evans
Larry Fugman
Michael Mills
Jody Artman
Isabelle LeMieux
Ernie Racette
Leslie Hines
Mary Jane Cummings

Meeting was called to order at 4:58 pm.

August minutes were approved.

Blackberry Festival: Mary Lou:

The festival went well, there were no major issues. The festival committee could have used a better community response for volunteers. No more silly string or water gun vendors in the future. When years are averaged out, income generally covers expenses. Electrical and waterline issues were addressed this year. There are some major repairs that need to be done, such as replacing the arbor.

The sewer district umbrellas the liability insurance for the event. They would like to have more kids' activities if someone would step forward to organize that.

Coffee shop: Madeleine and Michael:

This is the coffee shop's third month of being open and business is good. They would like more refrigeration space, but buying an adequate refrigerator will take them some time to make enough to afford it. They have workman's compensation for their employees as of September 1 of this year.

Michael would like to work with Lew the maintenance issues, such as the odor in the ladies room.

Building report: Isabelle:

The rentals are going well. Solving kitchen logistics with the cafe is in progress. There needs to be more shelving. The "No Smoking" signs have been put up in the patio.

There will be a building committee meeting Wednesday, September 16 at 5pm.

Farmers market: Isabelle and Leslie:

Research is still being done to find suitable insurance. To join the local farmers market association or comply with the demands of most insurance companies to cover us would not support the more open spirit of our market and not be acceptable to the current participants. Leslie is looking into a company that may offer coverage for a reasonable annual fee that the Friends could pay that would not require every vendor to obtain their own, individually.

There will be a farmers market meeting on Monday, September 14 at noon.

Library report: Josh:

On August 1st, Library volunteers were invited to an appreciation luncheon. The food was catered by the Good Life Catering and was excellent. Folks seemed to enjoy the event and, most importantly, we were able to say thank you to our volunteers, an invaluable resource.

Round Valley Public Library tabled at the Black Berry Festival this year. This was a great chance for us to talk with community members who may not visit the Library regularly. We had new books on display and information available on upcoming events. We also signed people up for a library cards.

Wifi got stronger at the Library in August due to an upgrade from the county provider.

Our 1st American and Science Fiction sections both had some work done on them in August. Both sections were weeded and some work was done on replacing spine labels that were out of date/ illegible. Books of poetry by native poets were moved from the First American section to Adult Non-fiction.

Ice cream making happened at the RVPL on August 16th. This fun and delicious event was well attended by children and adults. In addition to making Ice cream, participants heard a read-a-loud and a short educational component where participants learned about the ingredients of ice cream and their places of origin. Thanks goes to Izzy and Blair of "The Good Life" catering for coordinating logistics and facilitation.

New book acquisitions happened in August in the general fiction section and non-fiction section with more Science Fiction and 1st American/ Native Studies on the way in September. Funds from The Friends of the Round Valley Public Library were used to purchase DVDs and poetry books in August, as well art supplies for future storytimes.

Future events: This month Pat will be attending the Heirloom Seed Expo in Santa Rosa, and we will be hosting a poetry reading here at the Round Valley Public Library on Friday September 25th. Next month, on Friday the 16th, we will have a stargazing event and in November we will observing the international games day on the 21st.

Seeds, Films, and Games: Pat

Next week from Tuesday September 8th through Thursday the 10th, Pat'll be attending the Heirloom Seed Expo in Santa Rosa. There are workshops and presentations running all three days that she will be attending. Additionally, Wednesday afternoon Pat will be attending the Seed Librarians Summit. This annual event gives us the opportunity to learn, network, catch up on the legalities, and share what we're doing with other seed librarians from all over the country. The county will sponsor her trip, providing a stipend for her time and mileage.

If you have a garden you know that tomatoes are finally coming ripe! The Seed Library will put out the word in the community to invite folks to bring their *named varieties* of tomatoes to the Farmers Market on **Friday, September 18th**. **We'll have cutting boards, plates, and evaluation forms for tomato tasting. We'll also, of course, have information on how to save tomato seed for replanting in the spring.**

Other upcoming events include Milkweed Seed-Bombs to support the Monarch Butterflies (late September?), Saving Seed from the Fab Four (October), Planning Your Garden for Seed Saving (January), and a Gardeners Round Table in early spring.

We'll be pushing to get some volunteers in January to go through the frig and seed catalog to pull old seed and replace them with new donations, as well as wo/man tables once or twice a month at the Farmers Market during planting season in the late winter into spring. (We supply the seeds, the soil, the six-packs, you supply the enthusiasm.)

The Sustainability Movie Series returns in November with a screening of "Just Eat It," a film about food waste. It follows the experiences of Jen and Grant (whom you may remember from "The Clean Bin Project") over six months, as they eat only discarded food. Tentative date: Friday, November 13th. Donations accepted/requested to help pay for public performance rights (\$60).

Saturday, November 21st, we'll be joining with libraries all over the world for International Games Day @ Your Library.

If you spend any time at any library today, it is easy to see that libraries are about a lot more than books. Libraries provide access to information, education, entertainment, cultural development, and we strive to serve as a community hub. We offer books, magazines, newspapers, films, Internet connection, summer programming for kids, seeds, and so much more.

You'll often find chess sets and jigsaw puzzles in public libraries. Our own library, when we opened the doors at our new location had a small selection of kids' games available for people to play.

Many games tie in nicely with the Library's Mission and goals. Knowledge Games like Scrabble, and Strategy games like Chess and Backgammon have a long history in public libraries. There is a new generation of games, too, that tie together Narrative and Strategy and emphasize decision-making, resource management, and long-term planning. Games like *Settlers of Catan* fit into this category. Pat has been writing to various game publishers asking them to donate games to our library for Game Day and to allow open play of the games during library hours. If there is interest, she'd like to schedule a regular time for people to learn to play these games in the library. **We have had an excellent response from publishers so far with 7 gaming companies donating 27 games** and hopefully more on the way.

Dan Church owns Gateway Games in Willits, and he said he might be open to running a table and teaching a game or two on Games Day. **Pat is looking for other folks who would be interested in sharing a game they know (or learning a game to share) with the community on that day. Contact her** at the library or email sobrerop@co.mendocino.ca.us .

Fundraising: Larry:

Year to date fundraising:

\$4,500: Memberships and donations

\$7,500 total including events

There will be a dance October 17 with the band Dgiin. Proceeds will go to the landscaping fund. The band needs \$800, which could be raised by soliciting local sponsorship. Volunteers are needed for the usual: set up, clean up, etc.

Night Sun will be putting on another reggae party November 14. It was suggested that the Friends have a representative present to oversee the works.

All alcohol servers at events must be certified. This can be obtained with an online course. Anyone planning to man the bar at parties must comply.

There is another newsletter in process, hopefully out by October 15. This will update the happenings with the Friends since the previous newsletter. The annual newsletter is our most successful fundraiser. Genevieve would like to get an artist's rendering of the landscaping plan into the newsletter.

Landscaping:

Jody is currently working on the Park n Play project across from the school, which is a park in progress designed with young children in mind. She would also like to help us make our landscaping kid friendly. She proposed that we jointly raise money for Park n Play along with our landscaping fundraising efforts. There was a general assent to this.

The idea of a "groundskeeper" position was discussed. It was agreed that we needed some sort of maintenance strategy, but no action was taken.

We have had an offer from Elizabeth Raybee, a local artist, of organizing a tile mural project at the Commons. This could go on the concrete block exterior west wall between the coffee shop window and the coffee shop door. Carol will follow up on that.

Landscaping will be addressed at the next building committee meeting.

Email report from Genevieve Middleton:

Hello Friends:

I am happy to say that we made \$300 at the blackberry festival, had an additional pledge of \$200 and two people pledged to help with welding projects (ie making the round benches) and fine woodworking stuff.

Also we informed many people about the project.

I am also happy that I have been approached by multiple people to do other landscaping jobs and am currently working on a 3 acre site. Thusly I am quite busy and unable to attend today's meeting. However, I do have availability to meet specifically for this project- and to begin coordination on purchases and the digging/irrigation oversight.

I am aware of requests for design change but curious about the previously decided upon process of how sub committees make decisions etc. personal opinions are one thing, but mandatory design changes are another. I am not sure how to go about this.

I have noticed (it's impossible not to) the amount of people who are having difficulty with the "loss" of parking from the design plan. I hear them- I have counter arguments

1. We can use a county permit for farmers market days to close down a single lane along Perry St and utilize angle in parking
2. Has anyone been to Walmart before? You have to walk farther to get into and around that store than it would take to say, park in front of the trailer park or post office etc.
3. Most people currently believe that it is OK to park under the trees of the lawn around the edges, but it is not and is also one of the agreements made by farmers market vendors- and I also try to remind people of that agreement.

Landscape design to me has a lot to do with future generations, and I strongly believe that saving the trees and green space from being driven on will further the prosperity and quality of our community (library commons).

Thanks for letting me say what I want- that's what I love about our community.

Genevieve

Call me for an appointment at [541-729-0070](tel:541-729-0070)

Radio Station: Lew:

The DJ'ed party during Blackberry Festival was a success. It was fun and netted \$3,000.

There will be a family friendly carnival Sunday September 13, similar to last year's. Then, the pie-in-the-face event raised \$8,000. County notables have been lined up to be recipients of pie throwing.

There was a request to have a regular time that could be counted on for emergency bulletins, such as 10 minutes past the hour. The station needs a better automatic emergency power backup so that when the power goes off, as it has recently, it doesn't cause problems.

Meeting adjourned 6:21pm.

Next meeting: October 2 at 5pm.

Submitted by Carol Borden, Secretary FRVPL