



We are Friends of the Lakewood Libraries (FoLL)
<https://lakewoodlibraryfriends.org/>
<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTheLakewoodLibraries/>

We are found in Lakewood, California

A note about FoLL history that is found in our brochure: The Friends group was formed in February 1972 with an initial group of sixty-nine charter members and patrons.

Ways you can help:

Become a FoLL Board Member and/or volunteer: at the libraries, Friends book store, sort books or participate in our biannual book sales.

--Join us and become a board member--

Unless there's a conflict, the FoLL Board of Directors meetings are the first Thursdays of these months: January through October except no meetings in July or August. Meetings start at 6 p.m. and are held at Iacoboni Library. Board members who are unable to attend any particular meeting are asked to please inform the president or the secretary, or both.

Some typical events in our year:

- Our book sales are held at Iacoboni Library, 4990 Clark Ave., Lakewood, CA, 90712
- LA County Library will NOT ALLOW us to give away any used bags to customers in order to carry purchased books. As always, it is best to bring your own bag.
- April TBD for Used Book Sale at Iacoboni Library
- April TBD for Scholarship application due date
- October TBD - Used Book Sale at Iacoboni
- Sunday, November xx (usually when we drop daylight savings time for standard time) for our General Meeting

The FoLL Bylaws were revised and approved in 2015

FRIENDS OF THE LAKEWOOD LIBRARIES BYLAWS

Article I: NAME -- The name of this association shall be Friends of the Lakewood Libraries, Inc.

Article II: PURPOSE -- The Friends of the Lakewood Libraries (FoLL) is a non-profit, membership corporation established in 1972. The purpose of the corporation is to enhance the programs, services and materials of the Angelo M. Iacoboni and George Nye, Jr. Libraries through public awareness, cultural programs, and private funding.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP and DUES

Section 3.1: Membership in this Corporation shall be open to all individuals and organizations which embrace its purposes, and shall be obtained by the payment of annual dues, as set by the Board of Directors.

Section 3.2: Members in good standing and over 18 years of age can vote on issues presented to the membership at the General Meeting or any special meeting. Organizations may have one vote. Individual members are eligible to hold any elected or appointed office.

Section 3.3: To avoid any conflict of interest and in keeping with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Guidelines, County Library employees may join FoLL, but may not hold any elected office.

ARTICLE IV: PROCEEDINGS

Section 4.1: All proceedings of the Corporation shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order Revised except when in conflict with the Bylaws of the Corporation or with the laws of the State of California.

Section 4.2: The General Membership Meeting and Election of Officers shall be held in November at a location and time to be determined by the Board of Directors. A written notice shall be sent to members at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

Section 4.3 Special Meetings may be held as directed by the President or request of three (3) or more members. A written notice shall be sent to members at least two weeks before such meetings.

Section 4.4: The regular business of the corporation shall be conducted by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V: BOARD of DIRECTORS

Section 5.1: The Executive Officers of the Corporation, all of whom will be elected to serve one year terms, shall be the President, the Vice President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.

Section 5.2: The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers, Chairmen and all others nominated by the President and ratified by the Executive Officers There shall not be more than 20, nor less than seven, members on the Board of Directors.

Section 5.3: Members of the Board of Directors shall perform their assigned duties as described in the Standing Rules and such additional duties as may, from time to time, be assigned by the Board of Directors or the President. The standing committees may include Membership, Publicity/Newsletter, Hospitality, Book Sale, Bookstore, Communications, Fundraising, Volunteer, and Taste of Lakewood. Other positions may include Parliamentarian, Historian, Student Representative and Directors-at-Large.

Section 5.4: BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETINGS -- The Board shall schedule regular meetings (no fewer than four (4) each fiscal year). Special meetings of the Board can be held at the call of the President or by request of three or more Board Members. Meetings shall be presided over by the President or in his/her absence, by (in order of precedence) the Vice President, the Secretary, or the Treasurer. A simple majority of the voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 5.5: NOMINATIONS and ELECTIONS

Section 5.5.1: The Board of Directors shall appoint a Nominating Committee at least 45 days prior to the election of officers at the General Membership Meeting, consisting of five FoLL members. The composition of this Committee shall be three members from the Board and two from the general membership

Section 5.8.2: The Nominating Committee, using that committee's Standing Rules for guidance, shall present a slate of candidates for the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and may make recommendations of suitable candidates for other incoming Board of Directors positions.

Section 5.8.3: The Committee's report, including summaries of qualifications of the nominees, shall be presented to the Board of Directors at least four weeks prior to the election so that notification can be mailed to the membership no less than 15 days prior to the election.

Section 5.8.4: Additional nominations (with qualifying information for each) may be made by members in good standing at the Annual Meeting Those nominated must also be members in good standing and must consent to their nomination.

Article VI: LIMITATIONS

Section 6.1: All monetary profits, or items of value, which belong to the Corporation, shall be used for the described purposes. Furthermore, no individual shall, at any time, receive benefits from the accounts or properties of the Corporation

Section 6.2: No member or members of this organization shall present or pledge the credit, sponsorship or cooperation of this organization for any purpose unless authorized to do so by the Board of Directors

Section 6.3: LIMIT of INDEBTEDNESS -- All Officers of the Corporation shall be limited in incurring debts or obligations on behalf of the Corporation to those expenditures or obligations which have been approved in the adopted budget for that year. Additionally, no Officer of the Corporation may expend funds or incur an obligation on behalf of the Corporation for any non-budgeted item in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) without prior approval from the Board of Directors

Section 6.4: The Corporation shall not be voluntarily dissolved except by affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members.

Section 6.5: In the event of dissolution of the Corporation, and after all outstanding debts have been paid, all of the remaining assets shall be distributed to the Lakewood Libraries as specified in 23701D of the California Revenue and Taxation Code or Section 501 c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code using the established distribution proportions; (currently, Iacoboni – 65%, Nye – 35%).

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS -- The Bylaws may be amended, repealed or new Bylaws adopted at an Annual or a special meeting of the Corporation by an affirmative vote of a two-thirds majority of the members present as long as no change is in conflict with the Articles of Incorporation, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Guidelines, or Robert's Rules of Order. All changes to the Bylaws shall be approved by the Board prior to submission to the membership. The intention to amend Bylaws must be given to members by written notice at least one week prior to that meeting.

ARTICLE VIII: FUNDS

Section 8.1 No funds or properties shall be distributed without written authority of two Officers

Section 8.2 The board shall appoint an auditor who is not a member of the Board to audit the Corporation's books annually.

Section 8.3 Adequate books of accounts (as required and recommended by the auditor appointed by the Board of Directors) shall be maintained by the Treasurer.

Section 8.4. The fiscal year shall start January 1 and end December 31.

Section 8.5. Officers and Board of Directors members shall serve without compensation.

Section 8.6. In order to comply with Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Guidelines, funds may not be used for purchases that personally benefit members of the Library staff.

ARTICLE IX: STANDING RULES: The Standing Rules are separate from the Bylaws, and can be approved and amended by a two-thirds majority of a quorum during a meeting of the Board of Directors.

The FoLL Standing Rules were revised and approved in May 2018

Friends of the Lakewood Libraries

STANDING RULES

AMENDMENTS

These Standing Rules may be established or amended by an affirmative two-thirds vote of a quorum of the Board of Directors at a regular or special board meeting. No Standing Rule shall conflict with any of the provisions of the FoLL Bylaws.

MEMBERSHIP and DUES (See Bylaws Article III)

All membership categories shall be determined by the Board of Directors and shall start May 1 and end April 30. Membership in the FoLL is dependent upon payment of annual or pro-rated dues (those paid between December 1 and June 1).

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (See Bylaws Article V)

Officers shall be elected by Members of good standing at the annual General Membership Meeting and shall hold office for a period of one year. They are *de facto* Members of the Board of Directors. Other Board members shall be nominated by the President and shall be ratified by the Board of Directors.

Any Officer or Board Member may be removed by the Board of Directors, for cause at any regular or special meeting of the Board. Any Officer or Board Member may resign at any time by giving written notice to the President or to the Secretary.

Any Member of the Board of Directors who misses two consecutive meetings without contacting an officer with a valid reason, shall be removed from the Board.

The President shall nominate a member to fill *any vacancy of any office or chairmanship of the Board of Directors*. The Board of Directors shall vote whether to ratify said nomination.

Members of the Board of Directors shall maintain current documentation explaining how their duties are performed (including timelines, contact information samples, etc., as appropriate).

- The file of these materials shall be turned over to their successor.
- An outline of the file that has been created, and any changes made to it, shall be turned over to a Board-designated officer to minimize any loss of organizational knowledge.

MEETINGS (See Bylaws Article IV)

Following the selection of the Board Members, dates and times for meetings of the Board of Directors shall be established. They shall be held at Iacoboni or Nye Library unless neither library is available, in which case, a suitable location in a City facility shall be sought.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS (See Bylaws Article V, section 5.1)

The President shall be the chief executive officer, shall preside at all meetings of the organization and Board of Directors, and shall:

- serve as *ex-officio* member of all committees (except the Nominating Committee)
- oversee the implementation of all orders and resolutions of the Board of Directors
- direct and administer the affairs of the organization as its executive head and supervise all phases of its work
- oversee maintenance of the outlines of the Officers' and Chairmen's procedures
- exercise such other powers and perform such other duties and acts, subject to the approval of the Board

The Vice President shall assist the President in carrying out the latter's duties, and shall:

- in the absence or disability of the President, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President
- perform other duties as assigned by the President
- develop the General Membership Meeting program, and make the appropriate arrangements

The Secretary shall be responsible for:

- taking minutes of all meeting of the Membership and the Board of Directors
- maintaining Board of Directors meeting attendance records
- keeping custody of all official records including a copy of approved minutes as a permanent record. The archives of official records shall be kept in the Corporation's file in Iacoboni
- ensuring that copies of the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, Standing Rules, and the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order are available
- forwarding messages and other correspondence to members and to others as directed by the President and/or the Board of Directors

The Treasurer shall receive and take charge of all funds of the Corporation, and shall:

- keep and maintain the financial records of the Corporation
- make payments in accordance with approved budgets or as directed by the Board
- present financial reports at every Board meeting including the previous month's line-item transactions and the balances of the accounts maintained by the Corporation (currently: General, Iacoboni and Nye)
- obtain, with the approval of the Board, a person or entity that does not hold membership on the Board of Directors to perform the Annual Audit Report
- present the Annual Audit Report to the Board for approval within sixty(60) days of the audit or at the next meeting
- obtain, with Board approval, the services of a tax preparer to prepare required tax-reporting documents [currently, the IRS 990 (Return for Organizations Exempt from Income Tax), and the California Form RRF-1 (Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts)], and insure the documents are properly signed and sent to the appropriate agencies
- insure other currently required reports are filed, (e.g.: the Statement of Information to the Secretary of State [in January], and Friends of the Library Annual Statistical Report to the County of Los Angeles Public Library [in July])
- obtain monies for change boxes at events during which payments or donations are accepted

- recommend the distribution of net profits from the Bookstore (less 10% of gross sales which is retained by FoLL), Book Sales and Taste of Lakewood using the usual distribution proportions (currently, Iacoboni – 75%, Nye – 25%)
- maintain a separate scholarship trust account,
- issue checks to recipients covering education expenses up to the limit of the scholarship awarded, and
- include activity of scholarship account in monthly financial report.

DUTIES OF CHAIRMEN (See Bylaws Article V, Section 5.2)

The Membership Chairman shall solicit, receive and document all new memberships, and shall:

- maintain and update the membership roster at least quarterly
- maintain and distribute a current list of members to the Secretary, and to the Bookstore, Book Sales, Communications, and Publicity/Newsletter Chairmen
- inform the Volunteer Chairman of potential-volunteer information submitted on membership applications
- receive membership dues, record the payments and forward the payments to the Treasurer for deposit

The Publicity/Newsletter Chairman shall keep the membership informed via regular newsletter, flyers and/or post cards, and shall be responsible for:

- preparing the content of the FoLL newsletter
- obtaining the approval of it from the President and the L.A. County Library System
- arranging for the printing and mailing of it
- be responsible for obtaining the approval of the President for, and issuing of, all authorized Press Notices and media communications

The Hospitality Chairman shall arrange for refreshments at all board meetings, and coordinate with the Book Sale Chairman and the Vice President for refreshments at planned events.

The Book Sale Chairman shall supervise all book sale fund-raisers, including:

- being responsible for all arrangements for the book sale events (e.g.: reserving the Community Room and securing tables)
- coordinate publicity with the Publicity/Newsletter Chairman;
- secure bags for the final discount sale
- coordinating with the Volunteer Chairman for, and overseeing of, volunteers to:
 - move boxes from storage
 - set up the items for the event
- overseeing placement and removal of signs and banners;
- coordinating refreshments with Hospitality Chairman;
- coordinating money handling with the Treasurer,
- overseeing re-boxing, marking, organizing and distributing the books left over from the book sale

The Bookstore Chairman shall manage and supervise the Bookstore, and perform other activities, including:

- recruiting and training volunteers
- maintaining petty cash to be used for Bookstore sales
- reviewing and sorting books into categories for the Bookstore, for the Book Sales and for discarding

- overseeing the preparation and pricing of books for the Bookstore and book sales
- being responsible for sorting and preparing marked boxes of books for each Book Sale and informing the Book Sale Chairman of the quantity of each type of boxes
- forwarding all money from Bookstore sales (at least monthly) to the Treasurer for depositing in the FoLL account and preparing the monthly report to the Board

The Communications Chairman shall be responsible for contacting members, as needed, by phone and/or email using contact information provided by the Membership Chairman.

The Volunteer Chairman shall recruit and maintain a roster of volunteers, notify volunteers when their help is needed, record their hours worked, and shall additionally be responsible for:

- receiving information on potential volunteers from any source (including from the FoLL web site and from membership applications)
- contacting volunteers to determine their availability, ability and preferences
- forwarding the compiled information to the appropriate chairmen (Book Store, Book Sales, Taste of Lakewood, etc.)

The Taste of Lakewood Chairman, with the President, shall be responsible for providing oversight of all aspects of the ToL event and the event sponsors, including:

- serving a liaison with the City's representative
- appointing, with the President's concurrence, a Co-Chairman and various committee chairs as required
- presenting the City's Conditions document to the President and Board for agreement
- seeing that all of the Conditions required by the City are met
- securing as many booth operators as possible (up to the limit stated in the Conditions document)
- obtaining booth operators' signatures on the City's required Agreements and Health Department forms and forwarding these documents to the City representative assigned to the event
- requesting printing by the City of tickets and menus
- preparing the event menu
- overseeing the distribution and sale of tickets before and during the event
- overseeing printing and mounting of readable menu signs in food booths and on ticket booths
- coordinating with the person in charge of volunteers and the Treasurer as needed before and during the event to insure smooth supervision and operations
- preparing and distributing written instructions for all of the types of volunteer duties performed the day of the event
- overseeing the counting and recording of all tickets collected
- reporting to the Treasurer the final ticket counts and the percentages of donations for each booth operator
- overseeing composition of thank-you letters, and distribution of checks and letters to booth operators

The Parliamentarian shall be responsible for insuring that Robert's Rules of Order Revised is being followed during all proceedings.

The Student Representative shall serve as a liaison to Lakewood high schools and distribute information and materials to the student public on the affairs of the Friends of the Lakewood Libraries, including:

- supporting FoLL at their events and fundraising programs
- may chair a "Junior Friends" Group, in accordance with the guidelines established by Friends of Libraries USA (FOLUSA)

The Fundraising Chairman shall conduct meetings of the Fundraising Committee and shall submit to the Board of Directors their recommendations and supporting information (e.g.: estimates of number of volunteers necessary, estimated budget [including costs and projected income], and anticipated effects on the organization and libraries).

The Historian shall maintain an archive of historical items, including:

- current and previous Bylaws and Standing Rules
- a listing of officers and chairmen (past and present) with titles and addresses
- a listing [with pictures as available] of activities, projects and events supported within the libraries and community
- a list of special awards or recognition presented to or received by the organization and board members

The Webmaster shall be responsible for the format, organization and updates to the FoLL website(s) utilizing information provided by and approved by the Board of Directors.

The Directors at Large shall assist with decisions affecting FoLL by participating in Board of Directors meetings and shall support and assist with as many FoLL projects as possible.

Scholarship Chairman, with the President, shall be responsible for providing oversight of all aspects of the FoLL scholarships including:

- conducting all meetings of the Scholarship and Judging Committees,
- managing all aspects of soliciting and collecting applications,
- providing Judging Committee members with copies of application documents,
- with the Judging Committee, determining the number and amounts of scholarships based on funds available and number and quality of applicants,
- arranging interviews for finalists, if necessary
- notifying all who apply of the results,
- preparing a notification of the results for publication by the City, in FoLL newsletter, on FoLL web site, posters, etc.,
- working with the City to recognize winners at a City Council Meeting,
- working with the Vice President to recognize winners at the General Membership Meeting, and
- collecting from the recipients itemized receipts for education expenses and submit them to the treasurer so that money can be disbursed.