

FRIENDS OF THE CASA GRANDE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES  
February 10, 2025

Present: Barb Brown, Richard Flechtner, Grace McMillin, Bonnie Warren, Sue Reeves (Zoom), Tina Packard, Mary Jane Cedar Face, Amber Kent (Library), Lisa Morris-Wilkey, Michael Ouellet, Heather Ouellet (guest), Samantha Irey (Zoom), and Jeanne Linn (guest)

Absent: Sue Eberle, Bev Reidy, Jody Wendt

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m.

2. Minutes of Meeting of January 13, 2025

Richard Flechtner moved that we approve the minutes. Second by Bonnie Warren. Approved.

3. Treasurer's Report (Bonnie Warren)

a. Budget 2025

Earnings from the big book sale came to \$2,483.89 and we earned \$543.48 in January from book sales at Vista and Main. We received \$49.98 from ThriftBooks and \$800 in memberships. With miscellaneous earnings, our total January income was \$4,252.32, which does not include Edward Jones. We spent \$137.22 on book sale supplies and had operating expenses of \$64.69.

b. Next Book Sale

Because it is National Library Week, April 6-12 was suggested for the next book sale if Sue Eberle's estate sale is over. Bonnie received a request from Katie, staff at Vista, asking for any unwanted tables. The board wants to keep all tables because they will be needed. Sue Eberle and Mary Dondanville plan to put shelving up soon after Sue's estate sale. Amber said she can get help. We have plenty of books. Motion by Bonnie, that If the hangar is available April 6-12, we have another book sale. Second by Grace. Unanimous.

Tina brought up that it is getting hard for Bonnie and Mel to haul books. Bonnie likes to pick up books at St. Vincent and Bow Wow Meow, and sort them in her garage to toss unwanted books. Tina said Ethan can help.

Mary Jane asked if there are photos of the recent book sale. Bonnie took photos and will send them to Mary Jane and Tina.

4. Librarian's Report (Amber Kent)

The library is excited to introduce the new Beanstack Reading Tracker app. There are two public reading challenges open, one for all ages and one for preschoolers. Board members are invited to sign up for Beanstack, explore the app, and provide feedback. This year, thanks to sponsorship from the Arizona State Library, the library will use Beanstack for spring and summer reading challenges for kids. Input will help decide whether to continue with the app in the future. To get started, download the Beanstack Reading Tracker app, or look online at <https://casagrandeaz.beanstack.com>.

On February 5th, Secretary of State Adrian Fontes visited our Main Library to discuss how the State Library and Archives can better support our community. As his office oversees the Arizona State Library and Archives, he welcomed feedback on its impact and services. Joining the conversation were Mayor Fitzgibbons, Councilmember Dugan, and Councilmember BeDillon. Secretary Fontes spoke candidly about uncertainties facing libraries and other federally funded agencies, urging the library to plan ahead and collaborate with partners to ensure continued services for residents. He also encouraged our participation in America250, a national and statewide initiative celebrating 250 years of American independence. The project officially launches on April 18th with Two Lights for Tomorrow, honoring Paul Revere's historic ride, and culminates on July 4, 2026, with a concert and fireworks at the state capital. Communities across Arizona, including Casa Grande, will host events throughout the celebration.

5. President's Report (Tina Packard)

a. March 26th Chamber Event

The Chamber After Hours event begins at 5:15. Tina would like board members to attend and arrive by 4:45. Tina contacted Texas Roadhouse a few times without receiving a reply. Tina will next contact Hideout. If Hideout does not donate food, we will ask Creative Café. Amber will ask Danny Gallegos if he can invite the Key Club, the youth branch of the Kiwanis. Michael will create literary themed bookmarks.

6. Casa Grande Main Street membership update (Mary Jane)

Membership at the nonprofit sponsor level is \$25, not \$50. Mary Jane printed the membership form. Mary Jane will use her name and phone number on the form. Bonnie will write the check and make a copy of the form after the meeting.

7. Staff, volunteer, and donor acknowledgments/appreciation

a) Staff appreciation

We will give staff gift cards for \$25. Staff will be able to select from six card choices. Amber will gather staff card preferences for these locations listed below. We will put the gift cards in small gift bags along with candy or a cookie from Cookie Jar and distribute them personally.

- Creative Cafe
- Cookie Jar
- Big House
- L'Grande Cafe
- A Latte Vino
- Anayas's

b) Library Volunteer appreciation

There are 80-100 library volunteers, including about sixty in the Mayor's Reading Club, as well as English tutors, Spanish tutors, and a handful of other volunteers. Michael will make bookmarks. We will all sign cards. We will aim to mail these out during National Volunteer Week, which is April 21-27. Amber said the library can do the mailing.

c) FOL Donor Appreciation

Amber found the plaque. Sue Eberle and Samantha will follow up with this. Donors that we need to acknowledge include Claire Davis, bookmobile donors, and others. Samantha will review past minutes to compile a list. If there are too many names, we may need another plaque(s). Heather and Michael will help engrave signs for the plaques.

d) FOL board and FOL volunteer appreciation

We will have a potluck for FOL and book sale volunteers. Sue Eberle volunteered to host this at her house. Bonnie has contact information to invite FOL volunteers.

8. Other updates

a) Lisa

The school author event went well! Lisa ran the book sale last week and received positive feedback. ALA was great.

b) Michael

In January one book sold for \$25, *Hitler's Second Book: The Unpublished Sequel to Mein Kampf*. After shipping and platform fees, the revenue was \$17.82, of which FOL will receive \$8.91. Michael needs a way to transfer FOL earnings monthly. First Interstate now supports Zelle. Bonnie will follow up to set this up. So far in February, there is \$50 in sales.

c) FOL Board archives project

The work group meeting to go through and archive old FOL documents will meet on Tuesday, February 18. Lisa, Grace, Barb, Tina, Jody, and Bonnie volunteered to help with this at our last meeting.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Next Meeting: March 10, 2025, at 4 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Mary Jane Cedar Face, 2/14/2025.