

Langlois Public Library District
Regular Board Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at 6:00 pm
Langlois Public Library; 48234 HWY 101
Langlois, Oregon

Regular Board Meeting

- *Public Sign In
- *Call to Order
- *Agenda Approval
- *Approval of Minutes

Public Input

*The Public may be able to present oral or written testimony to the Board on subject(s) listed on the sign-in sheet. The Chair will set time allotted based upon number of speakers. *“The right of public attendance guaranteed by Oregon Public Meeting Law does not include the right to participate by public testimony or comment.”* ORS 192.630(1) Meetings are open to the public except for closed meetings specifically authorized.

Reports

- *Director’s Report

Correspondence

Unfinished Business

- *Book Sale update
- *Library Appeal

New Business

Executive Session

*See supporting documentation at bottom or reverse of this agenda.

*Public Session resumes after Executive Sessions.

Adjournment

*Next regular Board meeting: Wednesday March 7, 2018 at 6:00pm at the Library

Other matters may be discussed as deemed appropriate by the Board. If necessary, an Executive Session may be held in accordance with the following. Bolded topics are scheduled for the current meeting’s executive session.

ORS 192.600(1)(i) Personnel and ORS192.660(2)(f). To consider information or records that are exempt from disclosure by law, including written advice from your attorney.

The Board of Directors meet on the 1st Wednesday each month at 6:00 pm at the Langlois Library at 48234 HWY 101, Langlois OR.

Langlois Public Library Board Minutes 2/7/18

- Public Sign In:** Tobe Porter, Deanna McDermott, Jean Stephenson, Nancy Angelesco, Anne Guerin, Jo Rieber, Janet Hubel, Carol Waxham, Bob Morrow, John Randolph, Uli Lau
- Called to order:** 6:00 pm
- Opening Statement: Dave Terrusa, Board Chair read his statement and Jo Rieber's email of December 7th. Marcia Heinzman, Board Vice Chair read her statement.
- Board Present:** Dave Terrusa, Jo Heinzman, and Marcia Heinzman (Bev and JC King absent)
- Board Secretary:** Karen Schaefer
- Guests:** Deanna McDermott, Paulianne Balch, Martha Schram, Janet Hubel, Loretta Hillman, Jo Rieber, Roger Rieber, Anne Guerin, Mary Margaret Smith, Jean Stephenson, Velma Foster, Nancy Angelesco, Tobe Porter, Jon Porter, Sandy MacDonald, Tara O'Shea, Kathleen Schaefer, Michael Murphy, Bob Morrow, Jodie Moen, John Randolph, Carol Waxham, Thomas Medlin, Uli Lau, Ginney Etherton, Mary Wahl
- Approve Agenda:** Jo – Motion to approve the agenda with a change to add an education component to the meeting, 2nd Marcia, All 3 approved
- Approval of Minutes:** Read by Jo Heinzman, Motion to approve Jo Heinzman, Marcia Heinzman 2nd, All 3 approved.
- Public Input:** Tobe Porter, Deanna McDermott, Jean Stephenson, Nancy Angelesco, Anne Guerin, Jo Rieber, Janet Hubel, Carol Waxham, Bob Morrow, John Randolph, and Uli Lau. Letters included from: Jo Rieber, Carol Waxham, and Anne Guerin.
- Director's Report:** Discussed: 12 groups used the facility. Finances are looking great with 58.33% of the year done. Discussed current and future activities.
- Correspondence:** The Board read letters from Janet and Will Hubel, Loretta Hillman, and Mary Margaret Smith.
- Unfinished Business:** Book Sale update – things are going smoothly and on track with 35 people volunteering.
- New Business:** Education Component: Jo Heinzman discussed Special District Regulations, ORS 357:Statutes for Libraries, OAR, and Handbook for Trustees. Motion: Dave Terrusa: Include Board Education component to agenda for 10-15 minutes each meeting. Jo Heinzman 2nd, All 3 approved
- Check signing:** Bill Pay, Director signs checks per new agreement
- Executive Session – A. Personnel (ORS 192.660 (1) (i))** None
- Next meeting:** March 7, 2018 @ 6:00pm
- Adjourn:** 6:57 pm

From: Jo Rieber

Date: Thu, Dec 7, 2017 at 7:24 PM

Subject: Friends intentions

To: Dave Terrusa

>, Karen Schaefer <

Cc: Susan Orbom

>, Judy Fitzgerald

Gail Nordstrom

, anne guerin

Dave and Karen -

Please forward this email to the Langlois Public Library Board of Directors.

At the Friends' December meeting today, the following motion was passed: "The Friends of the Langlois Library will suspend fundraising activity and payment of Library requests beyond the annual \$2,000.00 donation to the Library General Fund until which time the Friends, Library Board of Directors and Library Director have entered into a memorandum of understanding."

We look forward to working with the Board and Director in a cooperative relationship for the good of our community Library.

Jo

Jo Rieber, President

Friends of the Langlois Library

Opening statement to clarify Board action before we get down to regular Board business. *Large Print Version*

For the past two years the Director, staff and volunteers have expressed their concern of how they were being treated by some of the Friends group.

To accurately record and foster civil communications, the Board requested communication via email.

However, almost every Board meeting it was brought up by a Friends Representative, that they wanted to discontinue communicating by email. The Board denied that request as their continued questioning showed a lack of respect to the Board, our Director and Staff by not following the directives of the Board.

We received an email December 8th, 2017, regarding an action taken by the Friends.

That email, was the reason we acted to disassociate ourselves from the Friends of the Langlois Library at the January 3rd, 2018 Board meeting.

It is important to remember that we, the Langlois Library Board of Directors, are elected government officials and as such have a responsibility to uphold the rules set forth by the State of Oregon. The situation that the board finds itself in regarding the private group known as The Friends of the Langlois Public Library is not a disagreement among equals, nor is it an emotional matter. This is a situation in which a private group of citizens is attempting to control a government body.

In *Handbook for Trustees of Oregon Public Libraries* by Ruthanne Lidman; 2005 Edition; published by Oregon State Library, the roles, responsibilities and limitations of library boards, library directors and library foundations/friends groups is defined as per Oregon law. The handbook states:

" Auxiliary groups such as the friends of the library organization and the foundation provide additional resources for the provision of services, but do not take part in the policy-setting or management of the library.

As auxiliary organizations which have no role in the policy-making or administration of public libraries, both friends of the library groups and foundations nonetheless provide valuable services. They are free-standing nonprofit organizations which can work for the betterment of library services and the enhancement of library facilities. Both foundations and friends groups can provide funds for special library programs and projects.

In addition, friends groups can provide:

a) services, by supplying volunteer library staff members, or by sponsoring special library programs;

b) increased public relations opportunities through the publication of a newsletter and/or a regular newspaper column, and through the promotion of fund raising and other special projects; and,

c) non-partisan political support for library programs and projects at the local, special district, county, state and federal level."

These are the limits of the Library Friends organizations in Oregon. For many years, this Friends group has sought to take on responsibilities outside of these support roles. For example, the friends report to the Library Board meeting 9/5/2013 states that the Friends wanted to be a part of the Library Director's annual performance evaluation, clearly outside of their defined role.

In recent times, members of the friends group have become increasingly insistent, hostile and demanding as the Board and the Director worked to maintain the roles set out by the State of Oregon. At the Library Board meeting on 3/1/2017, the Board decided to limit communications with the Director and the Friends to email only, as the friends' hostility had escalated to the point of abuse. At nearly every board meeting since that time, at least one member of the friends group has demanded that this limit be

lifted, and several times members of the Friends group have ignored the limit, attempting to engage library staff in person, often in an intimidating manner.

One recent example of over-stepping the Friends' role is last summer's PHS intern program. In just a few months, the Friends wrote 55 demanding, micro-managing emails in regard to the job description, management, supervision and evaluation of the 2017 PHS interns, which should be exclusively the responsibility of the Library Director. Finally, the Friends demanded to be allowed to control this matter or withhold funds that they had promised to provide for half of the financial award to the interns. When neither the Board nor the Director agreed to allow the Friends to make decisions which were the Director's responsibility, the Friends chose not to give the promised funds for the internship award. The internship awards were paid in part by Coos Curry Electric and in part by the library directly.

In response to the Board formally agreeing to follow Oregon statutes as outlined in the handbook, rather than to agree to a contract giving the Friends equal power with the board, the Friends' president sent the board the following email.

[Read Jo Rieber email of 12/7/2017]

Now to briefly address finances. In the Friends report to the Board on 9/4/2013, the friends stated that they had "nearly \$10,000 in the checking account." Four years later, in September, 2017, that figure was more than \$40,000 in their combined accounts. To address members of the community who wonder why the Board can distance itself from a group which spends money on the library: the Friends are clearly not spending money on the library, but withholding money as a form of blackmail in an attempt to take over responsibilities reserved for the board and the library director.

Marcia Heinzman, MAT
Vice-Chair
Board of Directors
Langlois Public Library