

FOLIO Board Meeting
Friday, October 21, 2022
FINAL

Members Present: Judy Haught, Bill Hagen, Linda Pye, Wayne Hanway, Gerry Hendon, Eugene Earsom, Teresia Jors, Sharon Douthitt, Jon Douthitt, Angie Lewis, Sharon Saulmon, Sandra Austin

Advisory Board: – Cassie Spindle, Deputy Director, ODL

President Haught called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

She introduced Peggy Cook, Librarian of the Shawnee Public Library who welcomed FOLIO and then shared some information about the libraries in her area and some of the sights to see in Shawnee.

The minutes from the past meeting were approved with no additions or corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Candace Baird was not able to attend the meeting but she did send everyone a copy of the first quarter (July 1, 2022 – September 30, 2022) financial report. Judy noted that we will receive a check for around \$6500 from the Endowment this month. The report was accepted.

President's Report: Judy reported that she had emailed the President's report earlier in the week. She then shared some books that she had read recently: *Last Summer Boys* by Bill Rivers and *The Many Daughters of Afong Moy* by Jamie Ford. Jon Douthitt recommended: *Peril* by Bob Woodward and *The Price of Valor* by David A. Smith. Angie Lewis recommended *Arc of Justice* by Kevin Boyle. Bill Hagan recommended *Prize for the Fire* by Rilla Askew and *In the Garden of Beasts* by Erik Larson. Wayne Hanway recommended *Atlas of the Heart* by Brene Brown. Linda Pye recommended *Her Last Flight* and *The Golden Hour* by Beatriz Williams. Eugene Earsom recommended *Shuggie Bain* by Douglas Stewart. Sharon Saulmon recommended *Bloomsbury Girls* by Natalie Jenner. Teresia Jors recommended *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummings. Teresia also shared an app for phone or Ipad that can be used for audio when hearing a word. When the app hears a word in a story such as helicopter it will play that noise which adds so much to a storytime. She also recommended the book *After the Fall* by Dan Santat. Cassie Spindle recommended the book also saying that it can help with social emotional resiliency when children can read and discuss this kind of book.

ODL/Federal Relations: Cassie Spindle reported that ODL is presently hiring for a Developmental Consultant. There are five consultants who network with public libraries to provide support in any way they can. They also work on special projects being funded with LSTA Funds. ODL is posting for Bill Young's position. They have met with House Appropriations and Budget - Education Subcommittee and the Chairman, Rep. Mark McBride, to give a performance review presentation the

legislative session resumes in February. ODL hopes to bring salaries to market rate; to add computers to the OMES lease plan; and increase the amount for OMES bills. They are requesting \$825,945 in new monies and the total requested appropriation is \$5,362,260. There are also continuing conversations regarding the facilities and renovation needs of the Alan Wright Library building, especially to expand the archives department. Connie Armstrong, Director for the Oklahoma Center for the Book, continues to work on the transfer of the Literary Landmarks program to the National Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and the state affiliated centers. Library Development consultants have finished their review of all the Annual Report submissions and are working to finalize the State Aid Distribution formula. Ready2Read@Your Library programs are getting their materials this week.

Cassie reported that there is continuing legislation across the United States to limit access to books and materials. Libraries are looking at security procedures and conducting physical threat assessments. There are no known threats in Oklahoma. HB1012 was signed giving \$382,144 million to the State Broadband Grant Program \$167,683,747 in ARPA Capital Projects Funds. SB0018 giving \$10 million to the Oklahoma Arts Council and HB1009 giving \$8.185 million to OETA were vetoed. An email with all of this information and more as well as links will be sent to all board members.

Awards: Best Friends: Sharon Saulmon reported that there would be an article in the newsletter.

Awards: Friends of Libraries Week: Angie Lewis reported that the applications are due by November 15.

Awards: Hall of Fame: Sharon Saulmon reported that she had the plaque and would take it to Midwest Trophy to have it updated. The award will be given at the OLA Conference. Eugene Earsom thanked the board for his selection to the Hall of Fame. He was very surprised and honored.

Awards: Seed Grants: Bill Hagan reports that he has some inquiries but no applications. He is continuing to work with the McLoud Friends' group in their effort to increase their membership.

Awards: Scholarships: Sandra Austin reported that the Call for Scholarships had been posted. Board members should have received the information so that they can pass along to anyone they know. There are three scholarships worth \$1000 each. The deadline for the applications is December 30, 2022.

By-Laws: Wayne Hanway reminded the board that they are all part of the nominating process for new board members. There are no nominations needed for officers as they are serving through June 30, 2024.

Endowment: Sharon Douthitt is working on the letter to send out for the Endowment Campaign. She would like pictures of the projects that FOLIO supports. Anyone with pictures should send those to Sharon. The letter will be mailed in late November. The procedure for mailing is in the process of moving from Tulsa to Weatherford. It will probably take place next year after this brochure is mailed.

Financial Review/Audit: No report

History/Archives: No report

Legislative: Sharon Saulmon reported that a major concern is HB 1372, which requires filters for students under 18. This bill will cause problems at academic libraries that have concurrent enrollments. She also distributed OLA's Legislative Agenda for the coming session. There are three subcommittees this year. One committee is working on the agenda and one is for voter registration, which appears to have been very successful if you judge the number of click throughs to the voter registration link, and the third is the advocacy calendar. There will be a meeting in December with legislators before the legislative session gets underway.

Literary Landmarks: Judy Haught reported that Connie Armstrong does expect a move for Literary Landmarks to The Center for the Book and it should be finalized next week. She is looking forward to the Tony Hillerman event.

Membership: Gerry Hendon mailed 643 membership forms on October 14. She mailed the forms out to everyone whether they were current members or not. Currently FOLIO has 32 paid memberships – 20 individual, 10 Friends groups and two libraries. Eight board members had already sent their dues in early. Gerry reminded everyone that all board members should be current in their dues.

Newsletter: Sharon Saulmon reminded the board that all articles for the newsletter should be submitted by Monday, October 24. Any ideas are welcome. The newsletter should be out before Thanksgiving. She also had a couple of books she would like to have members review for the spring newsletter. Sharon also revealed that she often sent messages from ALA out to board members because she wasn't sure who had already signed up with them. They are usually important messages asking for emails to legislators on important library issues. She is sorry if the members get duplicate emails but feels they are important enough to send.

Nominating: Wayne Hanway reminded the board that they are all part of the nominating committee in regard to new board members. New members are needed for the FOLIO Board. Sharon Saulmon nominated Bill Young for the Advisory Committee. Linda Pye seconded. The motion passed.

Outreach Ambassadors

Northeast: Sharon Douthitt is working on a brochure for the Outreach Ambassadors to use when they visit their area libraries. She recently visited Tahlequah. They have officers but need to have more members. Sharon spent a couple of hours explaining everything about FOLIO. At that point the small group wanted to visit Sharon's group the next time they met. They came to Claremore in August. Sharon said they had a wonderful experience with lots of discussion and a salad luncheon as well. The group from Tahlequah felt encouraged to keep working on getting more members to form a board. Sharon also reported that she had been working with Grove in trying to reenergize their Friends.

Northwest: Karen Neurohr has sent an introductory email to the libraries in her area with links to the different local and state Friends groups as well as United for Libraries.

Southwest: Angie Lewis reported that she was excited to be asked to do this and had her list of libraries ready. She will begin contacting them soon.

Southeast: Teresia Jors reported that Sulphur is not making much progress with their Friends group but they are really making improvements in their programming, which could help the group add members. She reported that in a recent meeting with her Friends' group they planned a rock painting activity, which increased the number of people involved. She feels that activities before or after a meeting could help encourage more participation especially with younger people at a time when memberships seem to be going down across the state. Bill Hagan reported that some groups are not aware of where their critical documents such as By-Laws and tax-exempt forms are. Another important issue is how do you keep an organization ongoing especially if it is formed to advocate for a new building, etc.

Publicity/Media/Marketing: Sharon Saulmon reported that FB followers are up. She has been buying ads in the Oklahoma City and Tulsa area but changed during Library Card Month and Friends of Libraries Week to paid FOLIO members. If anyone has ideas for posts, please send them to Sharon.

Bruce Stone has let Candace Baird know that he will be retiring in January, although he can continue to help through June. After that he will be out of the country for an extended period. Bruce has indicated that he would be willing to continue updating our web pages if it can be worked out. If no one else is interested Candace would be willing to be the backup. Judy Haught mentioned that at some point it may be necessary to find a new person to host and do the updates on the webpage. That would involve an increase in the cost allocated to Publicity/Media and Marketing.

Special Projects: The libraries involved in the Ready2Read project are receiving the books and materials this week. There were some questions as to how to spend

the \$2000 grants and they were advised that any materials that help with early childhood literacy skills would be appropriate. The end of the grant period is in May. Sharon Saulmon questioned whether the committee should look for money to extend this program that has been very successful.

The larger system libraries in Oklahoma have already signed up for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. It was reported that because of that 80% of the children under age five in Oklahoma have the Dolly Parton program available, which is wonderful news. There are other libraries that are beginning to sign on as well.

Unfinished Business: Judy Haught shared a letter of resignation offered by Carla Garrison. She will be missed.

New Business: Judy Haught reported that the annual meeting in conjunction with OLA and MPLA would be in March. FOLIO's day at the conference is Friday, March 10, 2023. The conference will be at the Embassy Suites in Norman, and registration will be online. Registration costs are supposed to be less for FOLIO members that are just attending one day. FOLIO will be hosting two sessions that day, one on how Friends can respond to book challenges and one on creative approaches to early childhood literacy. FOLIO will be presenting the Best Friends Awards and Scholarships as well as hosting an acclaimed author. The featured author will be Mariana Llanos, recipient of the 2022 Oklahoma Book Award for her children's book, *Run, Little Chaski!* There will be a FOLIO table that will need volunteers unless there are enough students to cover the shifts.

We need new board members. Anyone on the board can nominate a new board member.

Wayne Hanway revealed that this year is a joint conference with MPLA which means librarians from 12 states will be involved. That means extra programs and more exhibitors, especially if you attend on more than just the FOLIO day (Friday).

Announcements:

- Friends of Libraries Week Awards Applications due November 15, 2022
- Best Friends Awards Applications due December 30, 2022
- Scholarship Applications due December 30, 2022
- OLA Annual Conference, March 8-10, 2023, FOLIO Day March 10, 2023
- Next FOLIO Board Meeting, January 13, 2023

