



FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES IN OKLAHOMA

*Mission: Strengthening libraries in Oklahoma through Friends of Libraries*

**Annual Membership and Board Meeting Minutes—Friday, March 11, 2022, 1:45 p.m.**

**Rooms: Directors Row 3, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Tulsa, OK**

Present:

Board members - Wayne Hanway, Cecy Brown, Judy Haught, Sharon Saulmon, Angie Lewis, Karen Neurohr

Guests – Christina Finz (EOLS), Robyn Burris (Friends of Eufaula), Martha Kyrillidou (QualityMetrics-ODL Strategic Plan), Eugene Earsom (Emeritus Board), Melody Kellogg (Advisory Board), Jackie Kropp (Advisory Board)

1. Call to order

President Wayne Hanway called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m. and welcomed everyone. He explained that we did not have a quorum; so activities will be reported and a Zoom Board meeting will be held for official action at a later date.

2. Vote on proposed Board member Karen Alexander

Sharon Saulmon, Nominating Committee Chair, discussed Karen Alexander's nomination that will be voted on at a later date. She will be a great addition to the FOLIO Board with varied experiences including the Miami Tribal Library and Delaware County Library in Jay.

3. Minutes of January 7, 2022 Board meeting and February 2, 2022 Executive Committee meeting were discussed with no corrections as submitted by Secretary Sandra Austin.

4. Annual Treasurer's Report, previously emailed by Treasurer Candace Baird, was briefly reviewed. The Endowment is doing well with over \$160,000 now.

5. President's Annual Report

President Wayne Hanway thanked those in attendance. He had sent a report via email. He was delighted with the Board Retreat at St. Crispin's. The Ready2Read program is very exciting and will make a difference to library service in the state. He thanked Melody Kellogg and her staff for the encouragement and support of FOLIO this year. The Scholarship Committee, chaired by Dr. Cecy Brown, was highlighted for their extensive work in documenting the scholarship process and selecting great candidates this year. He appreciates all the FOLIO Board for their work in making this year successful. Jeannine Spencer's memorial service was March 5. Her membership on the FOLIO Board has included lots of different activities, i.e., secretary for several years. We continue to need additional board members.

6. Roll Call of Friends' Groups and Highlights of Activities

- Judy Haught told about several activities of the Friends of the Elk City Carnegie Library. They have "Bundles for Babies," which has a book and library information, to distribute at the local hospital for parents of newborns. They distribute about 30 per month. A high school class is assisting with bags. Operation Summer Reads gave books to kids in summer school last summer. Friends sponsored Ben Franklin and Veterans' programs.

- Stillwater Friends are having a big book sale at the Expo Center this weekend, reported Karen Neurohr.
- SOKC Friends had a successful Friends of Libraries Week campaign, featuring lifesize cutouts of the “Golden Girls” for photos. Make and Take that week included Friendship Bracelets and a baking project to share with Friends. They also sponsored a Friendship Bread-Making Program. It was delicious. Sharon Saulmon encouraged others to participate in FOL Week.

#### 7. Committee Reports and essential business

Best Friends—Diane Pennington – no report

Endowment—Gerry Hendon – no report

##### Friends of Libraries Week

Angie Lewis reported that McCloud and SOKC Friends received the FOL Week Awards.

Representatives of both were present at the Awards program.

Hall of Fame – Eugene Earsom was given the Hall of Fame Award at the FOLIO Author and Awards Program.

##### Legislative

- Sharon Saulmon reported that the OLA Legislative Liaisons are tracking several bills. You may find them at [oklibs.org](http://oklibs.org) – under Advocacy – Select OLA Engage Center. Legislative Day at the State Capitol, Pie Day, will be Wednesday, April 6. Please let Sharon know if you plan to attend. She will coordinate with the OLA Advocacy Committee. Friends are advocates and should be in contact with state legislators to remind them that libraries are important to each community. Say “thank you” to your legislators, if they support libraries. Federal Legislative Day will be in June in conjunction with the ALA Conference in Washington, DC, June 23-28, 2022.
- Melody Kellogg is coordinating the visits with Congresspeople in June. Please let her know if you are planning to attend. She asked that if you are represented by these state legislators - Rep. Logan Phillips (Mounds), Representative Rhonda Baker (Yukon), or Sen. Adam Pugh (Edmond), please thank them for their library support. Two bills still before the Legislature are HB 4013 (redefining obscenity to include written words) and HB 4014 (parents accessing student library records). The Archival & Records Commission is up for reauthorization, as well. Another concern for ODL is staff salaries. They are not being paid commensurate with comparable positions. QualityMetrics is working with ODL on evaluating the past five-year strategic plan and developing the next one for 2023-2027.

##### Literary Landmarks

Judy Haught reported that Tony Hillerman’s Literary Landmark has tentatively been rescheduled to May, 2023. United for Libraries is coordinating with the Library of Congress to move Literary

Landmarks there. FOLIO looks forward to working with the Oklahoma Center for the Book on upcoming Literary Landmarks.

Membership—Gerry Hendon – no report

Newsletter—Sharon Saulmon

The deadline for the next newsletter is March 25. Please send photos, articles, and ideas to Sharon. Thanks to Gerry Hendon for co-editing and finding all those small details that need to be correct.

Nominating—Sharon Saulmon

Thanks to everyone who agreed to serve and continue serving. Dr. Cecy Brown has resigned from the Board. We have appreciated wonderful dedication and willingness to share her expertise – Financial Fitness evaluations, surveys, scholarships, and more.

Nominations are: Vice President Angie Lewis, Secretary Sandra Austin and returning Board members Jon Douthitt, Sharon Douthitt, Diane Pennington, and Sharon Saulmon. We will vote on those at a later date.

Outreach Ambassadors:

- Northeast—Sharon and Jon Douthitt – no report
- Northwest—Karen Neurohr is sending out the *FOLIO Newsletter* via email to Friends in the Northwest.
- Southwest—Judy Haught had visited several libraries.
  - Mangum – Their Friends have an endowment and disburse \$10,000 each year to the library. The library has its own book sale.
  - Erick – This small library has 25-30 children in summer reading.
  - Sayre – The Friends are getting ready for summer reading.
  - Tuttle – They have received some budget monies from the city.
- Southeast—Dr. Bill Hagen, Teresia Harrison – no report

Publicity/Media/Marketing—Sharon Saulmon

Facebook is going well. Your ideas are welcome. Newer features for Facebook include Literary Landmark recipients honored on their birthdates, publicity for Friends local fundraisers, and leadership tips. Press releases will be prepared and distributed about the scholarship recipients. Please let Sharon know of any other publicity needs.

Web Page—Candace Baird – no report

Special Projects—Ready2Read—Sharon Saulmon

Ready2Read is going well during the first two months. Thirty libraries are scheduled to receive training on conducting engaging story times to maximize early childhood literacy (over 18 months), as well as receive around \$1,500 worth of materials from ODL, IMLS and ARPA. (Thanks to Melody Kellogg for making this possible.) Three libraries (El Reno, Yukon, and Jay) have been done with great evaluations. The Ready2Read-OK Facebook group is open to anyone, featuring articles, workshops, story time ideas, anything related to early childhood literacy.

Dates to remember:

- National Library Week, April 3-9, 2022 Find more information at: <https://www.ala.org/conferenceevents/celebrationweeks/natlibraryweek>
- National Library Workers Day, April 5, 2022

### **Closing Remarks/Adjourn**

Traci Sorell was a great speaker, bringing to light the misrepresentation and lack of accurate history about Native Americans.

Friends need to be advocates. President Hanway suggested that you use part of your meeting to practice a 30-60 second elevator speech about the Library. Capture your library stories. Legislators love to hear specific stories about how the library assisted you.

Submitted by Sharon Saulmon