

Friends of the Republic Library Board Minutes
August 20, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 11:04 by President Diane Engleking

Board Members present: Patrice Beckwith; Cynthia Bonneau-Green; Arwen Woolley; Emily Burt; Diane Engleking (via Zoom); Cherie Gorton; Leslie Tietsort; Marna Friend; Katherine Meade

Board Members absent: Mary Ciais; Julia Herschberger; CathyJo Gregory; Tina Smith; Christina Beckwith

Librarian present: Buffy Jackson

Minutes: Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the July 16, 2025 board meeting were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Arwen gave the Treasurer's Report as of 7/31/2025 (refer to financial reports). The summary is as follows: Note: balances are as of 7/31/2025:

Building Fund Savings – \$57,412.82

Building Fund Checking: \$3,525.50

STCU Checking: \$5,573.25

STCU Savings: \$11,682.80

Income/Expense for July 2025:

Grant Income \$0

Contributions: \$5,071.00

Membership dues: \$0

Misc. Income: \$377.00

Interest Income: \$8.88

Total Income: \$5,456.00

Total Expenses: \$1,773.99

Net Income (loss): \$3,682.89

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the financial report was unanimously approved.

Expense report: Arwen will bring the proposed Expense Report form to the September meeting for board approval

Emilia has agreed to do snow removal for the winter. She needs to provide Arwen with an invoice to receive payment for services.

President's Report:

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Audit Committee minutes/checklist for 7/16/25 were unanimously approved.

After discussion, it was decided FORL would not have a table at the Republic Back-to-School event. However, the trifold brochure on the library project/FORL activities will be available at the Republic Library table.

County Fair: the sign up sheet was passed around for member shifts. Katherine and Patrice have prepared talking points and assignments for each shift.

Librarian's Update:

- 1) The summer reading program was a big success with 298 participants, 130 of which were adults. This was the biggest sign up ever for the program. 85 people were at the end of summer party.
- 2) Library Corner in the monthly View: will announce the upcoming book sale as well as the fair booth; will refer people to the FORL website for information about FORL and project updates.
- 3) Buffy reviewed the continuing programming for Fall. Programming is reviewed and revised every three months.

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- 4) The lego wall is up and is a great success.
- 5) Buffy continues to work with the City and Job Corps for outside benches.
- 6) NCW is still in the process of reviewing and determining the branch staffing needs and issues.
- 7) There will be a Spanish Cultural Heritage event at the branch this fall.

Building Subcommittee Update:

Emily reported on the following:

- 1) To solve the issue of who controls the land when the City applies for grants, it was proposed that FORL transfer the land to the City. The Betscharts have agreed to this change provided the new Agreement requires the land to be used for the building of the library/community center (and child care facility, if possible). Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously approved to transfer the land to the City - subject to board approval of the final Agreement with the City, FORL, and Betscharts. The Agreement should be available for approval at the September meeting.
- 2) Emily met with Hunter Able to inform him of the termination of the engagement with Williams Kastner.

Refer to the building committee minutes for more details.

Old Business:

Quilt raffle update: To date we have sold 1,700 tickets. Leslie will sell tickets at the community concert on August 23rd.

Book sale: the sign up sheet was passed around. Patrice has prepared an ad for the monthly View which was approved by the board. She has also prepared posters for printing.

Letter to View: Tina prepared and submitted an op ed for the View.

New Business:

None

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm.

The next meeting of the Board will be on Wednesday, September 17, at 11:00am at the library.

Cynthia Bonneau-Green, Secretary

Exhibits: Treasurer's Report and Building Committee Minutes are retained in the FORL master files.