

Friends of the Republic Library Board Minutes  
September 17, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 11:04 by Treasurer, Arwen Woolley

Board Members present: Arwen Woolley; Cynthia Bonneau-Green; Emily Burt; Diane Engleking (arriving late); Cherie Gorton; Leslie Tietsort; Marna Friend; Katherine Meade; Tina Smith; Mary Ciais

Board Members absent: Julia Herschberger; CathyJo Gregory; Christina Beckwith; Patrice Beckwith  
Librarian present: Buffy Jackson. Member at Large/Guest: Nancy Churchill

**Minutes:** Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the August 20, 2025 board meeting were unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Arwen gave the Treasurer's Report as of 8/31/2025 (refer to financial reports). The summary is as follows: Note: balances are as of 8/31/2025:

Building Fund Savings – \$57,438.95

Building Fund Checking: \$2,850.50

STCU Checking: \$4,868.29

STCU Savings: \$11,955.31

Cash box: \$200.00

Income/Expense for August 2025:

Grant Income \$0

Contributions: \$20.00

Membership dues: \$0

Misc. Income: \$271.00

Interest Income: \$8.82

Total Income: \$299.82

Total Expenses: \$1,561.16

Net Income (loss): (\$1,261.34)

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

Expense report: The board authorized the Audit Committee to approve the expense report format.

**Old Business:**

Book Sale: the sale made \$1,358. in income (\$1,136. In book sales) Arwen recommended that future book sales have a point person. It was also noted we need more shopping bags for books.

County Fair: the booth was a great success and won a ribbon for second place. The booth generated \$529. with raffle ticket sales, memberships, and contributions. The Library bags sold out. Katherine will research the cost of getting new library bags and report at the October meeting.

Raffle Ticket Sales: A total of 2085 tickets have been sold.

(Diane joined the meeting at this point)

**Building Subcommittee Update:**

Emily reported the basic plans are in place for a smaller building with a single story. The current concept is a building providing flexibility with some movable walls. The entire building would be

approximately 14,018 sq feet with 5,000 sq feet of that allocated to the library. The committee is currently pursuing early learning facility grant funding because that is where the opportunity is right now.

Emily reported that an MOU for the ELC (Early Learning Center) grant and an Agreement with the City, FORL, and Betscharts had been reviewed by an ad hoc legal review committee consisting of Emily, Cynthia, and Attorney Sarah Cuellar. Upon discussion, the following three motions were duly made and seconded and unanimously approved.

Motion #1: A legal review subcommittee of the board be formed consisting of at least two board members in addition to the President of FORL. The committee will be authorized to review agreements and work with interested parties (including legal counsel). The committee will then make recommendations to the board for approval.

Motion #2: The legal review subcommittee will consist of: Diane Engelking, Emily Burt, and Cynthia Bonneau-Green.

Motion #3: Diane is authorized to execute the following: 1) MOU for the ELC Grant, and 2) The Agreement transferring the property to the City and setting forth responsibilities of parties.

**President's Report:**

Annual Meeting date: upon discussion, it was determined that the annual meeting be held on Tuesday, November 18th from 5-7pm. Cynthia will email Patrice with this information so Patrice can get this information posted on Facebook and the FORL website.

**Librarian's Report:**

Buffy reported on the following library activities:

1) The extended care patients are now coming to the library each week on the rural resources bus.

2) Buffy and Lilly are working on having a gaming night as well as establishing a Lego Club with the Republic library, Curlew library, and Community in the Schools.

3) October is Hispanic Heritage Month. Hispanic trivia will be on October 1st.

4) A charging station is in process.

A part time (21 hour) employee has been approved for the branch. Jennifer Knowles has applied for the position. Jennifer is currently a substitute librarian.

Trunk or Treat: the board approved a budget of up to \$400. for treats. The library has a Hobbit theme for this year.

Other:

Nancy Churchill announced that NCW Libraries was having a board retreat this month. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm.

The next meeting of the Board will be on **Wednesday, October 15, 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. MOU for ELC grant and Agreement with the City retained in master file.