

Friends of the Republic Library Board Minutes
March 18, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 11:08 am by President Diane Engleking
Board Members present: Diane Engleking; Cynthia Bonneau-Green; Arwen Woolley; Emily Burt; Cherie Gorton; Katherine Meade; Scott Powers; Mary Ciais; Tina Smith
Board Members absent: Patrice Beckwith; Christina Beckwith; Julia Hershberger; Leslie Tietzort.
Guests: Heather Brice (City Council member); Christina Klatovsky (Friends of the Curlew Library)
Librarian present: Buffy Jackson

Minutes: Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the February 18, 2026 board meeting were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Arwen gave the Treasurer's Report as of 2/28/26 (refer to financial reports). The summary is as follows: Note: balances are as of 2/28/26:
Building Fund Savings – \$62,107.47
Building Fund Checking: \$55,140.00
STCU Checking: \$3,472.17
STCU Savings: \$2,488.16
Income/Expense:
Grant/Misc Income \$50,000.00 (Waters Meet)
Contributions: \$45.00
Membership dues: \$140.00
Misc. Income: \$0
Interest Income: \$7.42
Total Income: \$50,192.42
Total Expenses: \$387.49
Net Income (loss): \$49,804.93

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved. Arwen reviewed the insurance policies and updated premiums. Upon a motion duly made and seconded the board approved the premium amounts and keeping the current coverage in place until the completion of the building project.

Building Subcommittee Update:
Emily gave the update.

The committee is working on a capital grant due in April. After discussion, a motion was duly made and seconded as follows: upon review and approval by the legal committee (Cynthia and Emily), Arwen, and Diane the board authorizes Diane to execute any necessary agreement/ MOU for the capital grant due in April.

The MOU with the City, NCW and FORL has been completed.

Emily reported that the site tour by representatives of the governor's office went very well. Emily also presented circulation stats for our library. These were also shared with the city council.

NEEPA is in process.

President's Update:

Diane introduced Christina Klatovsky of the Curlew Friends. Christina discussed various activities being planned at the Curlew library and in Curlew for the 250th anniversary of the country. Activities will be planned all summer long. The FORL support these efforts and will also be planning activities And will coordinate efforts when appropriate.

A discussion was had regarding the two open board positions. The board has the option to fill any open positions. It was agreed that Jim Deal would be invited to fill one of the open positions.

Librarian's Update:

The quarterly budget recommendation will be discussed at April's meeting. Buffy will then have information on what NCW will provide for activities.

Buffy updated the board on upcoming events and activities:

Conservation Fair: the board approved a budget of up to \$65.00

Summer reading: prizes will be needed. Budget will be discussed as part of the quarterly budget recommendations.

Outreach: many new programs are being implemented.

Job Corps: there is no funding to allow students to leave the site. Buffy and the Curlew librarian are working on "onsite" outreach.

Buffy reported that the carpet cleaning is scheduled for May 23. She is still working on scheduling the cleaning and painting of the parking lot. Upon a motion duly made and seconded the board approved the cleaning of carpets and the parking lot cleaning/painting.

Buffy also mentioned the big chairs in the library need repair or replacement. She is working on a solution.

Old Business:

May Day Garden Party event:

Katherine and Patrice are the point people for this event. Cherie has agreed to coordinate ONLY the dessert auction portion of the event - the proceeds of which will go to the summer reading program.

After discussion, the date of the event will be Tuesday, May 12th.

Katherine will provide a more detailed update at the April meeting. This event is an outreach event for our project business partners and major donors.

Conservation Fair and tie dye event merchandise: motion was made and duly seconded approving the purchase of an additional 10 tote bags by Katherine for sale at these upcoming events.

Other possible merchandise items will be discussed at the April meeting.

The board discussed the closing of Web Radish At the end of 2026. At this time no action is required.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 pm.

The next meeting of the Board will be on Wednesday, April 15 - 11:00am at the library. The board meeting will be immediately followed by the Audit Committee Meeting

Cynthia Bonneau-Green, Secretary

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