Friends of the Republic Library Board Minutes
April 15, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 11:07 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; Julia Herschberger; Patrice Beckwith
Board Members absent: Christina Beckwith; Leslie Tietsort.
Guests: Ernie Miranda; Jim Deal; Nancy Churchill
Librarian present: Lilly Rice

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

Treasurer's Report: Arwen gave the Treasurer's Report as of 3/31/26 (refer to financial reports). The summary is as follows: Note: balances are as of 3/31/26:
Building Fund Savings – $112,162.72
Building Fund Checking: $5,140.00
STCU Checking: $3,452.17
STCU Savings: $2,488.48
Cash Box: $0
Income/Expense:
Grant/Misc Income $0
Contributions: $45.00
Membership dues: $0
Misc. Income: $0
Interest Income: $12.96
Total Income: $57.96
Total Expenses: $5,654.47
Net Income (loss): ($5,596.51)

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

Building Subcommittee Update:
Emily gave the update.
The project (City) received an $8.3 million ELF Grant award for new construction.
Kinross awarded a $1 million grant (FORL) for the project.
A grant was submitted to the Department of Commerce for a $2 million grant.
Shelly Short and Hunter Able sponsored a grant for $175,000. (The State budget reflects this grant).
We have reached the benchmark for the additional $125,000. From Waters Meet Foundation. This additional funding will be requested.
The NEEPA report has been completed and submitted.
The committee is updating signage on the site to better reflect the project and partners.

President's Update:
Spokane Public Radio and the Spokesman Review have interviewed Diane on the project.
Diane introduced Ernie Miranda. Ernie expressed interest in serving on the FORL Board. Ernie gave the board an overview of his professional experience as well as his history and love of Ferry County.
Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the board unanimously voted to elect Ernie Miranda to the Board to fill the opening of position #4 created by the resignation of Marna Friend in February 2026. (Vote made Pursuant to Article IV, Section 4 of the bylaws).

Legal Review committee:
Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the board unanimously approved the legal review committee members are: Emily Burt, Ernie Miranda, and Cynthia Bonneau-Green.

Librarian's Update:
The quarterly budget recommendation will be discussed at May's meeting.
Lilly updated the board on upcoming events and activities. Summer reading will begin June 8. A fiber/knitting group now meets at the library 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 1:30. Jennifer is leading this activity. Ukulele group now meets every Thursday.
Parking lot cleaning and painting will be $145.00 Carpet Cleaning is scheduled for 5/23.
The board has previously approved both of these expenses.

Old Business:
May Day Garden Party event: May 12 from 5:30-7:30 at the carousel building.
Katherine gave the update. Invitations have gone out. Katherine and Patrice are contacting local eateries and will purchase appetizers, etc. for the event. Board members were asked to plan on helping at this event from 4:00-8:00 pm.

Dessert Auction: Cherie gave the update. Currently, there are 10-12 individuals who have agreed to donate desserts. After discussion, it was decided to have a live auction for about five of the grandest desserts. Scott volunteered to be the auctioneer.

Tie Dye Event: Emily reported the event will be 5-8pm on Tuesday, August 8th. July 17th will be the deadline to preorder shirts with Amber at the brewery.

Merchandise: after discussion, it was decided that Katherine would research and order: tote bags (large and small, if possible); embroidered patches; magnetic bumper stickers. Hats will be researched and potentially ordered before the fair.

New business:
Cherie and Mary will update the books for sale at the library.

Scott reported that he and Todd (city) inspected the basement and there is no mold.
Visit's Kiosk: Scott gave the update on the proposed Visitor's Kiosk for Slagle Park. He said it will be an excellent source for information for tourists and a perfect spot for the library brochure (Which is currently being updated by the building committee).

Board opening : Jim Deal declined serving on the board, but continues to be available for volunteer needs.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 11:58 pm.
The next meeting of the Board will be on Wednesday, May 20th - 11:00am at the library.

Cynthia Bonneau-Green, Secretary

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