

Alpine Public Library Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 3, 2023
5:30 PM
AEP Foundation Multipurpose Room and Zoom

Mission: The Alpine Public Library works to build community, encourage literacy, and promote lifelong learning. We endeavor to create and maintain a welcoming facility with relevant and enriching resources that connect our diverse and geographically remote area to the world.

Vision: The Alpine Public Library envisions a future in which individuals and families are engaged, lifelong learners.

Board Members Present: Jaime Escuder, Judy Bowers, Betsy Helesic, Martin Sandate, Don Wetterauer, Linda Bryant, Isabel Jones, Kathy Donnell, Ellen Ruggia, Chris Ruggia

Board Members Excused: Mary Bennett, Greg Henington

A. Call to order - LB called the meeting to order.

B. Changes to agenda - LB asked for changes to the agenda. CR offered a verbal FAPL report related to Dancing with Alpine's Stars. It was suggested to rename the event to Dancing with Big Bend's Stars; Those present agreed. Nash Traylor is the event Chair. The planning committee looked at the Granada as a potential venue. Additionally FAPL has created working groups and CR will give a list of the working groups to the Board. KD asks if they already have tables for the Dancing event. They do. Dancing with Big Bend's Stars is July 8 at the Granada.

C. Introduction of guests and announcements - LB said there are no guests and no announcements.

D. Approve the minutes - Someone pointed out that they need to say "minutes" instead of "agenda" in the title. Also add "Fry" behind "Fish." ER moves to approve with changes. KD seconds. Pass.

E. Consent Agenda - Director's, Treasurer's and Friends' reports (if available) - LB asks if everyone had a chance to review the Consent Agenda. KD had discussion items about Director's Report. CR was curious what falls into "other expenses" on the financial report. DW said he'd have to go back and look. CR moves to approve Consent Agenda. JB seconds. Passed.

F. Ongoing business

1. Direct Mail promotion - CR says that nonprofit mailing permit has arrived but recent news about Capital Campaign means that the letter could be changed to an operations-focused fundraiser. JB suggested we could promote FAPL membership at

library events like the successful science event held recently. BH suggested sharing about the “true cost of a program” as an angle for the mailing. Such as the true cost of our Kids Programs. JB asked, What’s the true cost of Kid’s Programs? JE says he proposes that we focus on increasing staff salaries. They will rewrite the letter. JE will help CR.

2. Building Committee - DW & MS - DW says that MS has talked to building inspector. He said that we have to stay under 12,000 square feet. 11,999 square feet and we don’t need sprinklers. Would need to cut the plan by 438 square feet to stay within those bounds. ER asks about squarefootage calculations.

- Seeking a new younger member representative - LB asked if anyone has recommendations for a young person to join the Building Committee (someone K-5?) Mary Beth has a few ideas.

3. Strategic Planning (SWOT Summary) - LB shared that the Strategic Plan is still on hold til May. She distributed and reviewed a SWOT Summary.

G. New business

1. Fish Fry report - LB asked for comments from the Fish Fry. KD asked numbers. 489 tickets. Plenty of fish. Ran out of ketchup and tartar sauce. The American Legion paid food costs and labor. We can all write thank you cards to the Legion and the musicians. LB would like to see more recognition of the Legion. She suggests (1) they should have a brick. (2) they get permanent Friends Membership. CR moves we do both of those things. BH asks what membership entails? American Legion would be the Member. Lifetime Business Membership for the American Legion. BH seconds. Passes. ER calculates the Library raised over \$6000!

2. Seeking volunteer to take books to the Visitors Center once a month - KD asked and CR offered. CR will ask former volunteer Cathy Wright about the situation.

H. Next meeting date: May 11, 2023 - BH will msis the June meeting if there is one.

I. Adjournment - ER moves to adjourn. JB seconds. Passes.

2023 Board of Directors:

Linda Bryant, President (2024)

Isabel Jones, Vice President (2025)

Ellen Ruggia, Treasurer (2024)

Betsy Evans, Secretary (2024)

Kathy Donnell (2023)

Jaime Escuder (2023)

Mary Bennett (2025)

Judy Bowers (2024)

Chris Ruggia, Friends of APL Representative

Greg Henington, Brewster Co. Representative

Martin Sandate, City of Alpine Representative