

Alpine Public Library Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 9, 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: Linda Bryant, Don Wetterauer, Betsy Helesic, Marilyn Gruebel, Ralph Gruebel, Kathy Donnel, Judy Bowers, Ellen Ruggia, Isabel Jones

Board Members Excused: Chris Ruggia, Mary Bennett

A. Call to order - Linda Bryant called the meeting to order.

B. Introduction of guests and announcements

1. **Rick Stephens joined the meeting as a guest** - Linda Bryant introduced Rick Stephens and he shared information about the project and his projections. The project's work started September 20, sharing his forty-step plan for completion. Target completion date is end of June.
2. **Announcements:** Linda asked for announcements from Board Members:
 - a. **Volunteer for Silent Auction. Contact Kaye Lindsey,** kayclindsey@gmail.com - Marilyn Gruebel made a plea for additional volunteers for Art Walk.
 - b. **Don't forget beer and wine for Auction wheelbarrows!** The reminder was made.
 - c. **Community Rewards** - Kathy Donnell and Linda Bryant went over the Community Rewards program procedures.
 - d. **Giving Tuesday** - Linda Bryant shared that Giving Tuesday is the Tuesday after Thanksgiving.

C. New business

1. **Talent Show** - Chris Ruggia reported that he sent the report that nobody is heading a talent show for February 10. Unless someone volunteers by the end of the month we don't have enough time. Ellen Ruggia and Chris Ruggia will speak with Lee Smith. Ralph Gruebel recommended the potential idea of switching the date. Linda Bryant recommended the group make the decision by the end of the month.
2. **Pricing and re-reads** - Linda Bryant brought up that a few years ago prices were changed and that a discussion could take place to change them again. Marilyn Gruebel suggested raising the price by \$0.50. Ellen Ruggia recommended 4-5\$ would

be pretty cheap for books still. Another recommendation was \$2.50 for paperbacks and \$4 for hardbacks, potentially with a local discount? Marilyn Gruebel moved to change the prices to: \$2.50 paperbacks and \$4 for hardbacks. and 15% discount for locals, or adjusted; keep the same prices on children's, dvds, audiobooks. Judy Bowers seconded. Passed. These changes will be implemented in January.

3. **Turkey Trot** - Betsy Helesic read the email from Chris Ruggia about the Turkey Trot planning. Ellen Ruggia will clarify the question posed with Benjamin. We will finalized details via email.

E. Approve the minutes - Judy Bowers moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ellen Ruggia seconded. Passed.

F. Consent Agenda - Linda Bryant asked for discussion on the Consent Agenda. She announced that in addition to Don's report, he will soon serve on a Texas State Library and Archives Commission committee that helps decide library procedures and what happens when people don't meet accreditation, the TSLAC Library Systems Act Advisory Board. Ralph Gruebel moved to accept the consent agenda. Judy Bowers seconded. Passed.

G. Ongoing business

1. Direct Mail promotion

- a. **Water bill** - Linda Bryant shared that the Big Bend Help Directory went out with the Water Bill.
- b. **From Library** - It was reported that envelopes are being stuffed for the second mailing. Ellen Ruggia shared we got the full refund on the purchased address list thanks to Judy Ford.

2. **Building Committee** - Linda Bryant asked Don Wetterauer for a Building Committee update. Don had nothing to add on top of Rick's visit.

3. **Friends of the Alpine Public Library structure** - Linda Bryant presented the discussion about the Friends of the Alpine Public Library . We'll always have Friends, she said. That's a membership - personal, family, or business. That's individual membership. The group is a group of officers. For the interest of the Board, ReReads is run by volunteers. Discussion took place about the Friends of the Library versus not having a friends group. The Friends would be a Committee of the Board under this arrangement. Ellen Ruggia moved to dissolve the FAPL amorphous organization. Marilyn Gruebel seconded. Passed.

H. Next meeting date - December 14

I. Adjournment - Linda Bryant asked for a motion to adjourn. Judy Bowers moved. Ralph Gruebel seconded. Passed.

2023 Board of Directors:

Linda Bryant, President (2024)

Isabel Jones, Vice President (2025)

Ellen Ruggia, Treasurer (2024)

Betsy Evans, Secretary (2024)

Kathy Donnell (2023)

Mary Bennett (2025)

Judy Bowers (2024)

Marilyn Gruebel (2026)

Ralph Gruebel (2026)

Chris Ruggia, Friends of APL Representative

Greg Henington, Brewster Co. Representative

Martin Sandate, City of Alpine Representative