

Friends Of Oskaloosa Library FOOLs Minutes
Unapproved – to be reviewed and approved at next meeting

Date: May 7, 2025

Location: Oskaloosa Public Library, 5:15 pm

Meeting Called to Order: 5:15 pm

Officers and Members Present

President: Margaret Fast, Secretary: Carol Snyder,

Treasurers: Jeannette Hierstein, Melinda Dick-Lang; Newspaper Liaison: Jen Trowbridge;

Members: Jo Cross, Lynelle Killinger

Board of Trustees: Doug Bond, Stephanie Spencer

Introductions were made.

Previous Meeting Notes (April 2nd, 2025)

Margaret reviewed, and the April Meeting Notes with minor changes were approved by consensus.

Meeting was held in response to Board's request for additional funding.

MOU

Doug relayed the message that after her first NEKLS APPLE (Applied Public Library Education) training, Sammy informed the Board that the MOU's final signing needed to be done during a Board meeting. Margaret reviewed the process of writing, reviewing by the Board, and finalizing after the Board review that led to the Jan. 29th, 2025 agreement of completion and signing of the MOU. Margaret will attend the May 19th Board meeting to re-sign the MOU.

Margaret reviewed the differences and similarities in the Board and Fools as organizations, open meetings, obtaining funds, taxing differences, etc. The MOU includes guidelines for requesting funding support from FOOLs.

Wish lists, Budgeting, and Timeline

Previous FOOLs minutes, and Board meeting minutes relating to summer reading program were reviewed.

Noting that the FOOLs November 13th minutes contained the Director's report on the Summer Reading 2024 expenditures, and a statement that "the library will be needing to triple the revenue for the 2025 program". The Director's email followed up with the need for books in the Children's Dept. and computers for the Director and Circulation.

Review of the April 2025 FOOLs minutes shows the agreement to provide \$1000 to the Summer Reading Program 2025. The Board did not know that action before their meeting on April 21. Doug had notified FOOLs on April 22nd that they took action to request from FOOLs \$2000 for SRP and \$1088 for a surveillance system in the library.

Review of May 5th email from Sammy to Margaret shows Sammy's displeasure in not being notified in a timely manner of FOOLs' summer reading funding, so that a schedule of summer events could not be guaranteed at this time. Stephanie emailed Margaret during our meeting a tentative schedule apparently developed in February which Sammy thought had been shared

with FOOLs. This schedule is attached. We appreciate the unpaid time that the Director and staff have used to obtain prizes so they can incentivize participants to read.

Development of wish lists is a new concept to the Board; all agree it is a learning curve. A timeline could be helpful in determining when FOOLs should plan fundraising activities. The Treats for Sweets and the Silent Auction, typically in February, and when combined during a week, have been better attended. FOOLs can promote summer reading during this sale. The Plant Sale, always in April near gardening season, has always focused on summer reading. The timing of the April plant sale could result in a "cash flow" issue as the Director's desire to be able to plan for use of available funds. This year FOOLs did commit to \$1000 at the April 2nd meeting, before the receipt of funds from the Plant Sale.

- Much discussion of misunderstandings as to timeline for information needed by the Board. Action would be: Just Ask.
- FOOLs request a timeline for Library's budgeting, so FOOLs could make plans to help with upcoming needs. Treasurers from FOOLs and Board could discuss the 2026 library budget and how FOOLs can prepare.
- FOOLs would like to promote that the Library gives culled books and unneeded book donations to the bookstore as per the MOU, and perhaps determine a percentage of the revenue be set aside and given to the library for book collection development. Bookstore donations generate around \$1000 per year. This idea among others, will be discussed when the respective group treasurers meet over the next few months.

Funding Requests

Summer Reading Program 2025

Much discussion on the actual cost and the attendance of the summer reading program in past years, current needs, and the purpose to promote literacy and lifelong reading. What FOOLs had seen of the request for 2025 was delivered March 7 via email and included on an Amazon wish list for items totaling \$1900.

Jeannette motioned to give additional \$1000, Carol seconded. Motion denied 7-1.

Melinda motioned that the Treats for Sweets funding, \$260, be given for Summer Reading. Jo seconded. Motion passed.

Margaret read her April letter to Sammy suggesting having an official presentation of funds press release would be good publicity for all involved.

- FOOLs will provide \$1260 for the Summer Reading Program 2025.

Surveillance cameras

The Board requested FOOLs provide \$1088 for a surveillance system.

Wirenuts from Tonganoxie, which provides the service in City Hall and USD 341, has been contacted. Margaret noted this is a type of capital outlay project that the MOU agrees would have an ad hoc committee to review details. A thorough discussion ensued, related to staff uses, fire safety, auto alarm, archive retrieval of video, audio, and bids received. The current bid from Wirenuts expires tomorrow.

The discussion covered the kinds of items considered in the MOU guidelines.

Jeniffer motioned that FOOLs provide \$728 for the cameras and first year of recorded surveillance for a total of \$1088. Melinda seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- FOOLs will provide \$1088 for the Library security system.

Other Business

Memorial

Margret read her letter to Sammy offering FOOLs' help in developing a memorial space for plaques, artwork, etc. honoring individuals pivotal to the Library's history. The letter specifically requested that a Board member determine the location of a crane sculpture and plaque by checking with the Director. It can be addressed in the May 19th Board meeting. Doug agreed to have eyes on the items by weeks end.

- Reminder of non-profit report for state due in June with \$80 fee. Every other year report is required. Margaret will file the report.

Community Engagement

Mary Luce from the Jefferson County Historical Society will be working with FOOLs to host Author Talks.

Carol and Melinda will follow up with Mary Luce about scheduling the room and promoting the events.

Table in front of Library on Old Settlers Saturday.

Reviewed from previous meeting. Board does not have anything planned.

Jo motioned to adjourn the meeting and Melinda seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19.

Gratitude

Thank you to Oskaloosa Community for support of Library endeavors!

The best way to have a good idea is to have a lot of ideas. ~ Linus Pauling

SRP 2025 FOOLS WISHLIST:

Event One: Kick-Off Event: Whole Library Event

- a. Date: June 7, 2025
- b. Activity: Paint Balloon Fight in empty lot next to City Hall with bag hand out
- c. Needs: Biodegradable Balloons, Biodegradable paint, white shirts (Hanes) x 100, goggles x100,
- d. Estimated Number of Participants: 109
- e. Estimated Number of Requested Volunteers: 5
- f. Requested Volunteer Duties: Assist in fill of SRP bags 3 days before event. Assist in set up of cardboard forts in lot, fill balloons with paint and water mix, set out shirts and goggles for paint fight, clean up and return of materials to library, assist with hand out of summer reading materials.
- g. Estimated Partner Organizations: Scouts of America, 4-H groups as available.

Event Two: Paint Darts—Adult Event

- a. Date: July 12, 2025
- b. Activity: Adult Paint Dart Craft

- c. Needs: Biodegradable balloons, biodegradable paint, darts, goggles, canvases
- d. Estimated Number of Participants: 45
- e. Estimated Number of Requested Volunteers: 3
- f. Requested Volunteer Duties: Assist in set up of stations, 4x4 squares taped on the ground

*The cost of these two adult events are included in the overall cost of the SRP events.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM TIMELINE OF EVENTSKICK OFF: JUNE 7, 2024

2. Week One Events:
 - a. Dates: June 10th, June 11th/June 12th?
 - b. Story Time:
 - c. Weekly Event (Children's): 6/10 and 6/12 paint pour craft with pk-6 grade ages on 6/10 and on 6/12 with grades 7-12th
 - d. Weekly Event (Adults): Paint and Sip—details still being worked out
 - e. Estimated Number of Volunteers per event: 3

3. Week Two Events:
 - a. Dates: June 17th, 18th/19th? June 21st
 - b. Story Time:
 - c. Weekly Event (Children's): 6/17 rock painting with pk-6th grade. 6/19 rock and wood circle painting with 7th-12th grade for garden
 - d. Weekly Event (Older Children): 6/19 Rock and wood circle painting with 7th-12th grade for garden
 - e. Estimated Number of Volunteers per event: 3

4. Week Three Events:
 - a. Dates: June 24th, 25th/26th?
 - b. Story Time:
 - c. Weekly Event (Mixed Age Children's?): 6/24 water gun painting grade pk-6th
 - d. 6/26 pop/dart balloon painting with 7th- 12th grade
 - e. Estimated Number of Volunteers per event: 3

5. Week Four Events:
 - a. Dates: July 1st
 - b. Story Time:
 - c. NO CHILDRENS EVENTS (Independence Day)

6. Week Five Events:
 - a. Dates: July 8th, 9th/10th?, July 12th (PM)
 - b. Story Time:
 - c. Weekly Event (Childrens): 7/8 tie dye shirts
 - d. Weekly Event (Older Children): 7/10 tie dye shirts
 - e. Estimated Number of Volunteers per event: 3

- f. Weekly Event (Adults): Paint Darts
- 7. Week Six Events:
 - a. Dates: July 15th, 16th/17th?
 - b. Story Time:
 - c. Weekly Event (Children's): 7/15 bird house craft; 7/17 wind chime craft
 - d. 7/17 Wind Chime craft
 - e. Estimated Number of Volunteers per event: 3
 - f. Weekly Event (Whole Library): End Party—details being worked out—open to suggestion