

Paonia Friends of the Library  
Board Meeting  
February 28, 2025

Members Present: Laura Major, Janice Thorup, Pamela Stephens, Jane Schulz, Marjory True, Teresa Shishim (new Board member)

Guests: LaDonna Gunn, Arthur Harriman

**I. Call Meeting to Order**

Major called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm

**II. November 2024 Minutes**

Holiday had distributed the minutes by email. Thorup moved to approve the minutes. Major seconded. The motion carried. Holiday has jumped to the District Board and is no longer on the Friends Board.

**III. Landscaping:**

Larry Beezley, who has been the landscape guru for years, has resigned from the Board.

**Sculpture:** Seth Weber is working on the globe sculpture for the new landscaping and will be done in March (or when it's done).

**Lawn Service:** For the last two years, the lawn has been mowed by Brian and Jen Lee, ClearCreek Lawn Maintenance. Thorup moved and Schulz seconded that we use the same lawn service. The motion carried.

**Sprinkler Service:** S&E Ward blows out the system in the fall and turns it on in the spring. Beezley has claimed that they are supposed to check that the zones are all working correctly in the spring, but they don't. More research is needed about replacing drip and sprinkler equipment. Gunn will ask S&E Ward to let us know what needs replacing. Major requests they check drip, sprinklers, and pop-ups. We will ask Aaron Byrum of ClearWater Designs for a bid to replace the irrigation and xeriscape the garden.

**Shade umbrella:** ShadeScapes will charge about \$2,500 for the umbrella canopy. We have the hardware for it and all the arms work. Shishim motioned and Thorup seconded that we share the cost of the umbrella 50/50 with the District. The motion carried. Major will contact Shadescapes to order it.

**Shade Sails :** ShadeScapes charges approximately \$1,700 per sail and it will take 6 weeks to make once we order them. Local Funbrella company cost of fabric is ~\$400 per piece. Natural Home product comes with edging and grommets and webbing along the side and are \$365 per piece. They recommended black to produce a calm space. We have all the hardware. Laura volunteered to make the shades at the Delta Maker Space. Posts need to be reset. We have two good sails and so we just need two more. The District has set aside \$10,000 for all shading.

**Tree Trimming:** Shishim will ask DMEA about cottonwood trees near power lines. Major will contact a local tree trimmer about doing the rest. Potentially the Friends will pay for that, based on estimate.

**Bamboo Fence:** needs to be resealed/oiled. Major will call Steve Morris regarding oiling and sealing. Senior Connects out of the NF Senior Center may have volunteers. Harriman will need to talk with the neighbor when there is a date scheduled so that we can access that side.

#### **IV. District Director's Report**

The District has set aside \$10,000 for all shading. Shade Sails are on hold until we know if we got the grant.

Credit card capability is coming for donations and fees and fines.

DOC/Inmates have been used here in the past. Are we considering that again? DOC contacted Gunn regarding renewing the contract with them. Perhaps they can do the mowing? They need tight supervision if they are using tools. We are responsible for training them.

Work project ideas for them: They could oil the fence and the front of the building. We may not renew the contract but Gunn will let us know.

#### **V. Library Manager's Report**

The Journal Jam program for adults had 16 people in two nights creating hand-sewn books

Open Mic has changed to the first Friday to improve attendance (this coming Friday). Hotchkiss Creamery was doing an Open Mic which is no longer happening. The Book store and Louis has open mics

The Song-writer workshop had good interest, and they are considering a continuing event once per month.

Swing dancing series continuing through March 29 at Memorial Hall with NF Community Band. Next lessons are on March 13 and 27.

A Youth Programmer (0-18) has been hired and will start March 11. Her name is Rachel.

The seed library will be ready March 4.

The Delta Reads Launch is March 14: This year the book and movie is Stuart Little. Each library card can get up to 4 tickets (meant for kids) for the movie. Each kid will get a little toy car. It is expanding from the Paradise in Paonia to the GMAC in Cedaredge and the Egyptian Theater in Delta.

#### **VI. Treasurer's Report**

Dave has submitted the financials. Please review them. Money can be put toward shade sails, irrigation, xeriscaping, and Summer Reading Program.

#### **VII. Book Barn**

Thorup will be out of town and needs coverage the 8th and the 12th. There are so many books that they are not fitting on the shelves. She will make boxes for those when she gets back in town in April, and setup for the sale could include boxing these books.

She will send an email about when she will need to suspend donations.

#### **VIII. Annual Meeting**

The annual meeting is currently scheduled for March 22 at 3 p.m. followed by the potluck from 4 to 6. Again, we need marketing, printing, volunteers, setup. True can help at 11. Mattingly is watching True to see how she finds volunteers for the annual meeting and for the book sales. Major will send an email inviting people. Shishm will modify the flyer from last year and leave them at the library for True to pick up and distribute.

**IX. Spring Book Sale**

The next book sale will run from 10-5 pm Friday and Saturday, April 4-5. Setup is Thursday, April 3 at 4 pm.

We need marketing, printing, volunteers, setup. Major will post the plastic sign up again in the front.

**X. Newsletter**

Shishm explained why and how we are creating an e-newsletter for the organization to improve participation in the board and volunteer opportunities. Shulz motioned to move forward with Klavio as our newsletter provider, Thorp seconded. The motion carried.

**XI. Elections**

The slate is: President-Pam Stephens, Treasurer-Dave Weber, Secretary-Laura Major, Public Relations-Teresa Shishm. Thorp moved and True seconded that we elect this slate. The motion carried.

**XII. Time and date for next meeting**

June meeting before Cherry Days. Friday, June 13th at noon.

**XIII. Friends Groups**

Susan Hansen, president of the Crawford Friends, asked if we want to have a Friends get together. This would include Crawford, Paonia, and Delta Friends groups and all their members. We could discuss how we raise money, information swap, and discuss landscaping and other things we spend our money on. This would involve a party and discussion. Good times to meet would be Friday at noon or the weekends in the morning.

**XIV. Recruiting Board Members**

Everyone ask one person to the next meeting.

**Adjourn**

We adjourned at 1:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Major, Secretary and Teresa Shishim, Public Relations