

Paonia Friends of the Library
Board Meeting
September 5, 2025

Members Present: Pam Stephens, Laura Major, David Weber, Teresa Shishim, Janice Thorup, John Schulz, Marjorie True

Guests: Arthur Harriman

Absent: Jane Schulz, Judy Livigston

- I. Call Meeting to Order
Stephens called the meeting to order at 12:00pm
- II. Changes to Agenda
We moved the Public Relations report to the top.
- III. Introduce guests
Library Manager Arthur Harriman.
- IV. Public Relations Report
 - a. Newsletter
Shishim will send out the newsletter within the next week. During this month, Thorup said we are highlighting books on fiber arts and costumes.
 - b. Membership drive letter
Shishim wrote the membership letter which resulted in a significant increase in people paying their dues.
 - c. Harvest Fest Book Sale
The flyer, designed and printed by the District's communication expert, is ready to be distributed. Other publicity information has also been forwarded to the District.
- V. June 13, 2025 Minutes
Weber moved and Shishim seconded that we accept the minutes. The motion carried.
- VI. Landscaping
 - a. Irrigation
We need to redo the irrigation at the back of the Library, as well as update the landscape. Harriman reported that S&E Ward came out to fix one of the sprinklers that had a long crack in its pipe. Weber requested a more xeric approach, including trees. He likes maples (the three we have are doing well). Nothing fast growing or messy. Suggestions were bur oaks, ash, cottonwoods. Not globe willow or catalpa. Stephens will get in touch with Aaron Byrum of Clearwater Designs and ask him for a design and cost estimate. Major suggested we get rid of the paths, but there might be contractual constraints with the city. Harriman will ask Gunn about the paths.
 - b. Tree trimming update
Shishim reported that DMEA will trim the cottonwood that is hanging close to the wires, but they have higher priorities, so it might be better to call a tree service. She will call Paonia Tree Service.
 - c. Landscape Maintenance update
The landscape looks good North Fork Nursery and Clear Creek have both been doing a good job.

- VII. District Update
Gunn was not present, but she had submitted a report to Stephens. The District requests \$825 for the summer reading program. She's requesting the same amount from each of the Friends groups. Shishim moved and Thorup seconded that we give the District the \$825 for the summer reading program. The motion carried.
- VIII. Library Manager's Report.
Paonia had 228 people register for the summer reading program, which was an increase over past years. The Paonia Library had the most completions of any of the libraries. There were great donations from the community for gifts for those who brought in their logs. Berg Harvest gave ice cream coupons and a local company gave locally made crayons.
The District will be fine free as of Sept. 15 for books and DVDs, but not for hardware like hotspots. August will continue with the regular recurring programs. Coffee Wednesdays are going well with a gradual increase in attendees. Tech Tuesday gets about 5 people/week. Becca and John Major help with technical issues.
Pettit and Harriman are planning a luncheon to thank the volunteers.
Harriman is now managing only the Paonia Library.
- IX. Treasurer's Report
We're getting 4% on a CD. And even without the Berg donation of \$10,000, we've netted about \$4000. So we're making money.
- X. Book Barn
Thorup reported that things are much easier now that the Librarians do a pre-sort and get rid of the trash.
- XI. Mountain Harvest Book Sale
a. Friday-Saturday, September 26-27. Setup Thursday at 5. Take down at 6 on Sept 27.
b. Volunteers, Marketing, Printing, Setup/Takedown
True, Shishim, and Thorup will coordinate the volunteers. Stephens will call KVNF. The District handles the Shopper.
- XII. Bank Balance
Berg foundation wants to know how we plan to use the money. Schulz asked if Weber would please make a pie chart showing where our money goes, something that's easy to grasp at a glance. Weber will give it a go. Harriman and Gunn are working on a list of things they would like the Friends to help finance, but it's not done yet.
- XIII. Shade sails
They were only used five or six times during the summer. It's not the best system, because it takes a long time to put them up and take them down.
- XIV. Date of next meeting.
The Christmas Book sale will be December 5/6. Setup on Dec. 3. So our next meeting will be Nov.7, at 12 noon.
- XV. Officers
Major has volunteered to be the vice chair.

XVI. Adjourn
We adjourned at 1:10.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Major, Secretary