

Paonia Friends of the Library

Board Meeting

June 12, 2026

Members Present: Pam Stephens, Laura Major, David Weber, Janice Thorup, Judy Livingston, Marjorie True, Teresa Shishm

Guests: LaDonna Gunn, Lesandre Barley, Nathan Franklin

Absent: Jon Schulz,

- I. Call Meeting to Order
Stephens called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon.
- II. Changes to Agenda
Major requested we discuss a brick fund raiser.
- III. Introduce guests
Library Manager Nathan Franklin, District Director LaDonna Gunn, Paonia District Board Representative Lesandre Barley
- IV. Minutes from March 6, 2026
The minutes were approved unanimously.
- V. Landscaping
 - a Stephens described the meeting on April 3 to talk with Landscape Restoration (Josh Harnnet of WSCC), Kai Spriggs of WSCC, Aaron Byrum of Clearwater Designs, LaDonna Gunn, Nathan Franklin, and several Friends Board members. The point of the meeting was to come up with some ideas for landscaping on the east side of the library.

Byrum submitted a preliminary design but we should make sure that WSCC has some input. Major will contact Spriggs, forward Byrum's design, and ask how they expect to be involved. The WSCC received a grant for improving pollinator landscapes, including in their application that they expected to be working with the Paonia Library. However, this is still vague.

There was much discussion about Byrum's design. No matter what we finally agree on, the District has to approve, and the expense has to fit within the District's capitol projects. It would be good if we could have a final design by August so the District can consider it with next year's budget. The Board members will consider the design and let the rest of us know by email what they think|.
 - b Paonia Garden Club – The Paonia Garden Club has offered to take over management of the statue garden. Major met with Charlotte Minor to discuss what that entailed and explained that the club could use any of the plants from the east garden, since we were planning to redo that area. She will get to us with a plan for their approach
- VI. District Director's Report
So far, the District has raised \$12,130 for summer programs. They will know by August how much more money they will need. Much of that money goes for incentives for kids. And for the music programs. Of the requests the District made last year, the Friends paid for furniture for the children's area, lowering the outside lights to meet Dark Sky requirements, and the seats on the amphitheater. The

seats on the amphitheater came out under budget since they were done in-house rather than ordered. They aren't exactly the same color, but close enough.

Still to be purchased: blinds for the community room, fence repair, and parking lot repair/patch.

VII. Library Manager's Report.

Franklin is impressed by the amount and variety of activities at this library.

- a. Community room blinds have been ordered.
- b. The library needs new chairs for the community room, because the new folding chairs have caused problems and the soft, stacking chairs are in bad shape.
- c. The Teen area was reorganized.
- d. The area near front door was changed. There is more privacy for computer users.
- e. There were 42 people at last night's music program and 85 people last week.
- f. 150 have signed up for summer reading.
- g. There is a gate count of 250 people per day.
- h. On Saturday the library is streaming a TED presentation with 15 different speakers on the subject of democracy. It starts at 9 am and goes on all day.
- i. The Library will have a fire drill before the library opens on July 9. Apparently, they haven't had one in years.

There has been a suggestion for a tool library, which would include donated tools and donated tool maintenance time. So far there is a 30-40 item list of tools. Just the beginning thoughts, since there are obviously a lot of issues, e.g.storage.

Throup suggested we entice a meal truck to come during music programs. Gunn said we could maybe explore that idea for next year. However, Major suggested that we don't want to step on Berg Harvest's toes.

VIII. Treasurer's Report.

We received a hand-written thank you note from Creative Coalition for our donation.

Weber will get stamps and envelopes so we can send out a membership letter.

IX. Public Relations Report.

The next letter will go out July 2 and will hype the membership drive. There is great open rate on the letter.

The flyer for the book sale is ready for distribution. Shishm will put the notice in kvnf and the Shopper.

X. Book Barn

There are empty spaces on our shelves because the spring sale was so late.

XI. Cherry Days Book Sale

- a. Friday-Saturday, July 3-4 (10AM-5PM each day)
- b. Set up at 4pm on July 2
- c. Lynn Mattingly to call for volunteers (set up and sales)

Thorup pointed out that we don't need takedown help because we do so well without it, well-oiled team that we are.

XII. Date of next meeting.

Sept 11, 2026

XIII. Bricks

Gunn said that a patron wanted to make a donation but wanted a name on a brick. The entry wall is

completely covered with donation bricks. We could incorporate outdoor bricks into the landscape. Major will check on providers. Suggestions were the Grand Junction HopeWest Hospice Facility and Delta Climate Bricks.

XIV. Adjourn
We adjourned at 1:30.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Major, Secretary