

Friends of the Venice Library

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 16, 2023 / 1:45PM-2PM / VENICE BRANCH LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM

ATTENDEES

Board Members: Linda Martinek, President; Shelley Hochberg, Dolores Rivera, Anne Taylor, Susanne Cumming, Kay Bailey

FoVL Members: Neil Citrin, Robin Berger, Caroline Stack

Others present: Martha Santana, Joe Santana, Hannah M., Allahe D (sp?), Pedro Ortega, Jim Supiro (sp?), Liz Santoro, Barri Clark (sp?).

REPORTING

State of the FoVL - The President, Linda Martinek started the meeting at 1:45pm by welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending. She mentioned how the Friends' supports the library and pointed to a number of items in the community room that were provided by Friends funding: 2 air purifiers, audio/visual equipment and the wall art from a kids artwork event.

Voting on Minutes of last year's Annual Board Meeting - The membership voted unanimously to approve the minutes from last year's annual meeting 8/26/22.

Senior Librarian - John Frank talked about upcoming events at the branch and thanked the Friends for their support.

Financials - Vice President, Shelley Hochberg read the financial report from the Treasurer, Lucille Cappas with Bert Fallon assisting. "...we ended our current fiscal year, June 30, 2023, in a very strong financial position. And we have continued to remain in that state. ... The library was open and we had most of our programs back up. These included book sales, Pilates, yoga, chess club, gardening and other programs. In addition, we supported two very successful community celebrations planned and run by library staff. Most of our revenue came from our memberships and our periodic book sales. This year we also had a special one-time funding to honor Bee Colman for her work here at our library. Most of our expenses (87%) went to the library programs previously described. Copies of our financial statements are available for members."

Book Sales - President Martinek noted that the next book sale is April 27 and shared that the last book sale netted around \$2100 for the FoVL. She said that the Friends needs volunteers and there is a longer process for applying thanks to new COVID procedures.

Membership - Membership Director, Dolores Rivera talked about the current end of year donation drive and mentioned how critical Friends' groups are to fill the budget shortfalls of the LAPL; we currently have 132 members. She vouched that the \$20 membership fee supports the branch and encouraged people to follow the FoVL on our social media - to stay informed on current happenings.

Voting on Board of Directors for next year

- The current slate of the FoVL board was nominated for next year's term of office, the nomination was seconded and the votes unanimously approved it.

NOTES

Bring copies of last years' meeting minutes as well as the agenda for current years' meeting and add QR code or website/email information to the bottom of the agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 1:58. Followed by Holiday Swing Music by the Benny Brydern Trio.

