

Friends of the Empire Library  
Minutes of Organizational Meeting  
August 11, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Jim Sterling at 6:09 P.M. He thanked Roz Starn, Marcia Gilbert, and Marye Martinez for donating funds so 3,500 flyers about the Empire branch and formation of a Friends group could be printed and sent home with every student in the Empire schools. Jim also thanked Heather Bailey [former Empire branch manager now with the Keyes Library] for her support and encouragement in getting the Friends of the Empire Library group started.

Motion by Bob Dittman, second by Nathan Cary, to adopt the Mission Statement with the amendment of changing *its* desire to *the* desire in the last section.  
Motion carried.

Discussion held on short term goals suggested by Empire Branch manager Martha Perales and members from the audience:

- changing tables in both the Men's and Women's rest rooms
- raising money for the purchase of more expensive [specialized] books for the Empire collection
- establishing a monthly rotation for certain books from the main Stanislaus library
- magazine subscriptions

Discussion held on long term goal of raising money so the library could be open another day a month or more hours/days a week.

Discussion held about meeting Spanish language needs. It was suggested that we recruit students from Johansen High School and the new charter school in Empire to volunteer to read stories in Spanish and/or be available to help Spanish speaking patrons. We should also check to see if they can get any academic credit for volunteering to do this.

Discussion held on changes to Constitution and By-Laws of the Friends of the Empire Library. Motion by Roxanne Padget, second by Nathan Cary, to amend Article IV, Section 4, from *ten* members to *five* members. Motion carried. Motion by Marye Martinez, second by Carolyn Dipiero, to remove Article IV, Section 5, and approve the amended Constitution and By-Laws contingent upon making Article IX, Clause 1, compatible with 503-C tax exemption qualifications. Motion carried. Jim Sterling will pursue getting non-profit status for the FOEL.

A Nominating Committee consisting of Michelle Bairos, Roxanne Padget, and Susan Harmon will bring a proposed slate of officers to the next meeting. Positions to be filled are President, First Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Director At Large. Volunteers for any of the positions were asked to contact the Nominating Committee.

Discussion held about a possible book sale fund raiser during the Spring Elementary School carnival. Jim suggested we attend the Friends of the Pool spaghetti dinner next month to help foster a mutual support system.

Discussion held on the proposed membership fee structure. Motion by Nathan Cary, second by Marye Martinez, to change Individual fees to \$2.00, Family fees [with no limit on the size of the family] to \$8.00, and Organization fees to \$20.00. All other fees listed in the proposed fee schedule would remain the same. Motion carried.

Jean Rogers from the Village Christian Fellowship Church introduced herself and stated her church would like to support the FOEL. She mentioned that the fourth Saturday of every month her church distributes about 100 bags of groceries and we could put flyers in the bags.

Jim Sterling said FOEL could rent a mailbox at Empire P.O. for \$20 per 6 months. A suggestion was made that we instead use the Library's mailing address. Martha Perales was asked to check to see if this was allowed.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M. Everyone is asked to bring a contact list of potential members/sponsors.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Harmon, acting Secretary