

Minutes
2023 Annual Meeting
River Falls Library Foundation
January 31, 2024

Call to Order

President Montgomery called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

In Attendance

Montgomery, Misselt, Jacobs, Jacobson, Popelka, Ostness, Trautmiller, Nelson:

Welcome and Recognition

President Montgomery welcomed Rebecca Ferguson, Lorraine Davis, Tiffany Alexander, representing the Library Board of Trustees, and William Montgomery and Linda Vivoda-Sadee, representing the River Falls community.

Montgomery officially appointed new members: Sarah Nelson, who will take over the Treasurer position from Mae Wolfe (resigned) and Sue Popelka, who took the place of Betsy Westerhaus (resigned).

Motion for approval of minutes from the January 31, 2023 Annual Meeting

Jacobs, Trautmiller. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report (Sarah Nelson)

Treasurer Nelson reported:

- She has effectively moved all the financials to Quickbooks and all account names have been switched to her name, in lieu of past treasurer, Mae Wolfe. Nelson now has the key to the lockbox and PO Box.
- Nelson reviewed past donations to determine whether any 1099s were needed to be sent out to donors. None were needed and this was also reviewed by Mae Wolfe.
- Nelson was able to get a recommendation to a tax preparer in Hudson as our current tax preparer isn't willing to assist in tax prep this year. She will have the cost of tax prep for review at the next meeting.
- There is an additional check written out to the Foundation for \$300 for the Spanish Book Collection; It was motioned by Jacobson/Popelka to move that money to the library (separate from the annual allocated money to the library) for this purpose. Motion carried.
- Nelson has been checking the foundation box at the library and the PO Box every week.
- Nelson suggested looking into the details of our Savings Bonds
- Nelson is looking into better ways to share membership information/donations with Jacobson.
- Nelson paid the 2022 Tax Prep fee and moved the additional monies to the library for 2024 funding, as discussed and noted at the Dec. 6 meeting.
- Donations have come in on behalf of Katie Chaffee's Celebration of Life.

Library Director's Report (Tanya Misselt)

Director Misselt reported:

- There is discussion on whether or not the RFBL Board of Trustees meetings should be video recorded and how to make use of those.
- Amy White (city admin.) suggests inviting the Library Foundation for the Feasibility Proposals & Capital Campaign contract proposals that are being proposed for the interior remodel. It is implied these companies would also be contracted for the construction as well. It was questioned whether the remodel would need to be rebid. Their presentations will be closed meetings. It isn't critical the Foundation be at the next meeting to discuss the consult, but future meeting attendance regarding the architecture presentations and Feasibility Study & Capital Campaign specifics is requested.
- The library has been named as one of the benefactors of the Loren Albert Trust Fund.
- Foundation funds have been used to purchase two sewing machines, along with some additional equipment (bobbins, sewing arm), available for checkout for those over 18 years of age. The library is accepting fabric donations.

Foundation Board's Accomplishments

The Library Foundation Board focused on three major areas during 2022. They include:

Working with the RF Library Board of Trustees and BTR (the company which is developing Library renovation plans)

Developing a more workable situation for disbursement of the Foundation's grant monies to the Library.

Continued discussions on investments made by the Foundation

Some specifics include the following:

1. Continued investing in the St. Croix Valley Foundation.
2. Welcomed visitors to our regular meetings, including members of the River Falls Public Library Board of Trustees
3. Continued the liaison position from the Foundation Board to the River Falls Public Library Board of Trustees
4. Began a quarterly newsletter which is sent to Foundation members
5. Made some revisions to the Foundation's portion of the River Falls Public Library's web page, which now includes the minutes of the Foundation's meetings.
6. Added a plaque to the Ty Symes bench, which now sits with her husband's bench.
7. Celebrated the 100th Anniversary in May of the River Falls Public Library by hosting a table at the celebration.
8. Attended a city council meeting regarding the River Falls Public Library
9. Hosted the River Falls history display in the basement of the library

10. Are considering developing a scholarship for students who work at the River Falls Library or an essay of how the library has fostered their learning.
11. Board member, Callie Trautmiller, wrote a letter to Foundation members explaining the Foundation's support for the library renovation project.
12. Welcomed four new Board members, who then replaced one member who had passed away (Katie Chaffee), and three (Tony Pedriana, Betsy Westerhaus and Mae Wolfe) who had resigned from the Board.

Membership report (Linda Jacobson)

reported total membership stood 66 family, 53 individual, along with 44 non-member donations. 8 of these memberships were from the Power of 100 Women, along with 22 of the donations.

- Thank-yous have been sent from donations/memberships since June of 2023 and moving forward, thank-yous will be sent out for any additional amounts donated (excluding membership fees).

Election report (Linda Jacobson)

reported that there were 28 votes for all three candidates: Dave Ostness, Alyce Jacobs and Callie Trautmiller, each re-elected to two-year terms on the Board.

Board reorganization

Assignments for 2024 are as follows:

President	Karen Montgomery
Vice President	Callie Trautmiller
Treasurer	Sarah Nelson
Secretary	Alyce Jacobs
Membership Chair	Linda Jacobson

President Montgomery adjourned the annual meeting at 7:55 pm.