

JOHN TRIGG ESTER LIBRARY
Annual Meeting
October 17, 2021

Members present: Gary Pohl, Ritchie Musick, Mindy Gallagher, Mike Musick, Syrielyn Tong, Mina Doerner, Kristin Haney, Linnaea Doerner, Sharon Lockwood

The meeting was called to order at 4:05pm by Zoom

Minutes: There were no minutes available from the 2020 annual meeting

Slide Show:

A slide show was presented showed photos of the projects undertaken during the past year. These included showing the new handicapped ramp, book bags ready for pickup by children, the new Toyo stove purchased with a Good Cents grant, the Growing Ester's Biodiversity program (GEB) by Kristen Haney, Monique Musick, and Mel Duran, the plant sale day, the support of the UAF greenhouse and the annual seed swap. Children's programs featuring a great bubble making Saturday with Sharon Lockwood, and a Jr gardener program with Kristen Haney. It showed the float we built for the Ester July 4th parade.

President's report

With covid there were no fundraising activities, no Super Heroes Night or Liberry Festival. Open hours have been held regularly 4-7 on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings. Book collections have been sorted and updated regularly. We received a Good Cents grant for a new Toyo stove. GEB or Growing Ester's Biodiversity Program has been continued. Children's programs were implemented. Knitting and fiber crafts are offered on Tuesdays. Garden beds were planted, weeded, and harvested. Handicraft ramp was added. The outhouse was replaced. A cleanup day was undertaken by Board members. We finished the year in the black without a major fundraiser.

Revision to the Bylaws:

We need 7 directors total with 4 officers in order to meet State requirements for nonprofits. The bylaw revision eliminates two alternates leaving us with seven directors.

Financial Report past year

\$409,226.78 total assets

Net Income \$2,114.52

Budget was based on \$1200 income and actual income was \$2114.52.

(See attached balance sheet.)

Collections

6749 books are catalogued with 5872 of them on shelves in the Clausen cabin. 877 remain in the white house.

Old or missing titles have been removed from the catalog.

The sorting continues on most Saturdays.

The Four Winds collection is done, the Guinn work is in progress.

Surplus books were offered for sale at the EVFD garage sale.

Our shelf space in Clausen is filled.

James Rogan, Gary Graves, Carol Hoefler, and Kristin Haney also made donations, and there were others received.

Kay Sisson, Karyn Holder, and Mindy Gallagher meet on most Saturdays.

We should send thank yous to this committee

Janet Thompson and Suzann Souzawith have also helped in the past.

Grants

We received \$2275 from Good Cents for a new Toyo stove . This is the second time we have received from Good Cents, the first being for roof replacement.

Other potential targets for grant funding would be for a new water holding system to replace the defunct 235 gallon tank in the crawl space and to replace the failed septic system.

Another source of funding could be for a new heat recovery ventilator system which would be a great improvement to air quality, especially considering COVID.

Friends of the library is a small group that has provided funds for specific requests in the past including \$350 for an audit. Their focus was to support the Clausen cabin.

Ritchie will send contact information for Ventilation Solutions to Mina.

Volunteers and Donations

We have 59 members, 13 are lifetime.

We added 40 more than in 2020, many of these through the GEB seed program.

The Donor Tree has 4 new leaves for \$450. This is down from \$650 in 2020.

Fred Meyer rewards gave us \$176 down from \$213 in 2020.

Amazon Smile gave us \$150.53.

Pick Click Give gave us \$975 from 19 donors, up from \$627.75 from 15 donors in 2020.

Growing Ester's Biodiversity (GEB)

This program is run by Kristin Haney and Monique Musick.

It has been active all year.

In October it received recognition with an interview in Edible Alaska Magazine published in their spring issue.

In February they were preapproved to apply for a USDA Microgrant for Food Security. They submitted an application but did not receive a grant.

Seeds were ordered to restock the seed library.

Seedy Saturday was cancelled because of Covid, but a seed stewardship program was started. Members picked up seeds for planting and future harvest. Twenty new JTEL members were gained through this program.

This program was featured in a Fairbanks Daily News Miner Article.

In March seed packets were made for steward pickup and seeds were planted in the UAF greenhouse.

In May board members and others spent a Saturday cleaning the yard, raking leaves, pruning the chokecherry, weeding beds, etc. A sale of surplus plants grossed \$2,072.

In June the library beds were planted and surplus plants taken to the Ester Park, Hartung Hall, and the Goldstream Community Garden.

Twenty gallon sized pots were planted and taken to the businesses of Goldhill, One Hit Wonder, North Star Center, and Ursa Major Distillery.

In September seeds were collected from all sources listed above, the pots collected from the businesses, and the library yard cleaned and readied for winter.

In October seed stocks were inventoried and stewards encouraged to donate seed back to the library. October 2nd is set for a seed stock day for collections.

We still have seeds in brown paper packs and are working on their organization

Children's Programs

Three science and art events were planned and three Jr Gardner events.

Covid limited participants to a maximum of six children ages 5-11, and activities were limited to outdoor programs.

Participation was small, and we look forward to better publicity in the future and the ability to serve more children.

Volunteers are sought to help administer these.

Social Media

The website is being revised and updated by Sharon Lockwood and her daughter, Robin.

The Facebook site is being overseen by Ritchie. She is having problems but learning.

Thank You List

JTEL wants to thank all its volunteers, board members, life-time members, catalogers, seed stewards, and donors for their generosity of time and finances.

Resolution to Amend the By-Laws

A formal resolution was presented to change the by-laws to reduce the board of directors from seven members plus two alternates to seven members. (See attached resolution).

Ritchie moved to adapt the resolution, ST seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

This change will be made with the State of Alaska as required.

Elections

Terms on the Board were up for Mindy, ST, and Kristin. All three agreed to serve another term.

Ritchie moved to elect them by unanimous consent. ST seconded the motion and all three were elected for another two-year term.

Sharon moved to adjourn the meeting, Mina seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 4:57.