

Ester Village Library

2025 Retreat Minutes

December 21, 2025

- I. Call to Order – 1:00 PM. Persons present: ST, Sarah Albers, Kristin Haney, Elizabeth Dawson, Kathy Nava & Darwin Cameron
- II. Approval of October 6, 2025 Annual Meeting minutes and BOD meeting minutes – approved by unanimous consent
- III. Goals – the following goals were set by the board
 - A. Finish updating the rest of the policies by the end of the fiscal year – ST
 - B. Community survey in January – Elizabeth
Increasing visitors, members & focusing staffing, hours and money based upon survey results
 - C. Brown building – Clear out and dismantle building by Spring – Dawson
 - D. Clausen Expansion – get bids for septic system and bathroom by February - Kathy
 - E. Seed catalog on internet by the end of the fiscal year – Kristin
 - F. Historical walkway project – see if ECA wants to collaborate and start planning the project – ST and Sarah
 - G. Tribute to John Trigg and new name celebration planned by March – ST and Board. Summertime event with a possible ice cream social
 - H. Work on creating more relevant fiction, music and Alaskana sections – Darwin
 - I. Creating a more inviting garden area – Sarah (adding benches and landscaping)
 - J. Increasing more seeds in the seed gardens – Kristin
- IV. Budget – Everyone created a budget for FY26
- V. Programs
 - A. GEB – Kristin may do a hybrid garlic sale this year (part home grown, part purchased)
 - B. Children’s programs – Kathy wasn’t getting kids for the book club, so Monday has become just an after school arts and crafts club
 - C. Special Programs – Sine’s proposal for new programs and the Special Events manager was discussed. The Board wanted to know more about what types of programs she was thinking of, if she thought there was interest, and the division of labor between us and her. We were interested in a trial run.
- VI. Committees – the following persons agreed to head the following committees:
 - A. Facilities – Darwin
 - B. Volunteers – Darwin recommended scrapping the old list and just starting new. A new committee head was not set at this point

- C. Policy revision – ST
 - D. Collections – Darwin
 - E. Marketing – no change (ST – website, Kathy – newsletter). Elizabeth is in charge of the membership list because it's tied to Quickbooks and will coordinate with Kathy to send the newsletter out.
- VII. Monthly board meeting date and time – we decided to keep it as the last Monday of the month from 6:30-8:30. January's meeting will be changed to January 28, due to ST and Sarah being out of town on the last Monday.
- VIII. Odds and Ends
- A. Lost and Found policy – ST needed direction on this new policy. We agreed to keep items for 6 months, then distribute to Board members or others as we saw fit
 - B. January newsletter – Kathy will add a link to the new survey when she emails out the newsletter
 - C. Kristin will be having a Seed Catalog party around mid-January, and will get ST and Kathy the date and time
 - D. Holiday closures – We will continue to honor MLK day (January 19) and Juneteenth (June 19), as well as Christmas eve
 - E. Darwin requested a light for the “Open” sign. ST to acquire one
 - F. Kristin recommended Thomas Hart, a local blacksmith, for a potential new library sign
- IX. Adjournment – 4:05 PM