

**TOWN OF LOOMIS  
LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
LOOMIS LIBRARY  
6050 LIBRARY DRIVE, LOOMIS, CA 95650  
MEETING MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY**

**November 8, 2023**

**6:00 P.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

*Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by Gail Waller.*

**2. SILENT ROLL CALL**

Board Members

Elizabeth Stewart-Black

Juanita Garcia

Nicholas Phirippidis

Samantha Mallory

Gail Waller

*All board members in attendance: Garcia, Mallory, Phirippidis, Stewart-Black, Waller*

*Also in attendance: Sarah Comstock, Loomis Librarian*

**3. MATTERS OF INTEREST TO BOARD MEMBERS**

*\*Garcia asked if Board members needs to sign a new "Statement of Economic Interest" form. Sarah will check.*

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT:** *Citizens may address the Library Board on items not on this agenda.*

*Speakers shall restrict their comments to issues that are within the subject jurisdiction of the Library Board and limit their comments to five (5) minutes per person. The Brown Act, with certain exceptions, does not permit the Library Board to discuss or take action on items that are not listed on the agenda. Please state your name for the record.*

*Pam Blake said she was here to address the citizen at the last Loomis Town Council meeting who spoke against a book in the library's children's section.*

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** February 8, 2023 (PUBLIC COMMENT)

*Mallory moved to approve the August 16, 2023; second by Stewart-Black. Approved. Garcia abstained since she wasn't at the August 16, 2023, board meeting.*

No public comment.

**6. GARDEN UPDATE (PUBLIC COMMENT)**

*Waller, member of the garden steering committee, reported that planting will begin soon. Working on a plan for engaging volunteers. Donations are still coming in; there no concern about garden funding. A ribbon cutting will be held in late winter or early spring.*

No public comment.

**7. FINANCIAL STATEMENT (PUBLIC COMMENT)**

*Sarah Comstock reported that there is no financial report since the Town is still without a Financial Director. She said Library expense are within budget. The fire alarm panel, recently damaged by a power surge, was replaced.*

*Public comment: Joanne Ligamari asked if the Town Manager had contacted PG&E to discuss compensation for the costs related to replacement of the fire alarm panel. Comstock will follow-up.*

**8. FRIENDS OF LOOMIS LIBRARY UPDATE (PUBLIC COMMENT)**

*Jean Wilson reported FOLL's Fall Book Sale generated \$1,200 – the second-best sale ever. The on-going book sale in the library is earning \$100-\$200 per month.*

**FOLL is coordinating the “Buy-A-Brick Campaign” for the Demonstration Garden for the Master Gardeners. The goal is 200 bricks, which will be placed around the fountain in the garden. To date, 99 bricks have been sold. Bricks are selling for \$120 and \$130. The actual cost of a brick is \$20. FOLL will receive 20% of the net proceeds with 80% going to the Master Gardeners in support of the garden.**

**The FOLL annual Holiday Bazaar will be held Saturday December 2 at the Memorial Hall. This year all craft booths have been reserved. She requested donated cookies to sell – bring to Memorial Hall Friday afternoon.**

Public comment: *Pam Blake asked why the brick supplier selected is in Florida. Wilson replied that Polar Engraving was selected by the Master Gardeners because it offered a turn-key program, making it easy to implement.*

## **9. CAMPAIGN UPDATE (PUBLIC COMMENT)**

**Ann Baker updated the board on the status of the campaign. The second community report was mailed out in August.**

**In August, the Town Council heard the findings of the town-wide poll, conducted in June 2023, on “Loomis Voter Attitudes Toward a Sale Tax Renewal”. The polling data show an 80% positive agreement that the library is an important resource in the community. The Town Manager is supportive of having the Town Council consider in early Spring to put the tax extension on the 2024 ballot to make the ¼ cent sales tax permanent. A committee is being formed for the campaign for the tax measure, which was originally passed in 2016. An organizational meeting will be held in January 2023. Ann encouraged library board members to be involved.**

No public comment.

## **10. LOOMIS LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER OPERATIONS REPORT (PUBLIC COMMENT)**

**Sarah Comstock reported on activities of the Library during August - October 2023. Highlights included the new Tea of the Month Club; The Bug Bonanza, put on the Placer County Mosquito and Vector Control; and Storytime with Mini-Horse drew 200 attendees. In December, the library staff is planning a Friendship Bracelet workshop.**

**The library will be closed on Veterans Day (11/11); Thanksgiving (11/23-11/25); Christmas (12/23 – 1/1/24). The library will be closed on 12/23, though staff will work on year-end clean-up. Again, the library will participate in the Day Before Thanksgiving parade on 11/122. Sarah encouraged board members to join in.**

**Sarah recounted the reactions to annual Banned Books Week, October 1-7, 2023. Town administration asked Sarah to take down a Facebook post and not to put up a display in the library about Banned Books Week.**

**(Banned Books Week celebrates the freedom to read and spotlights current and historical attempts to censor books in libraries and schools.)**

**The board and public members held a lengthy discussion about the topic and its role in supporting library staff in controversial issues. Sarah reminded the board of the “Formal Challenge” procedure in the Policy Manual. Phirippidis proposed the board adopt policies to address future similar situations. Sarah will research library display and social media policies from other libraries and bring recommendations to the February board meeting. Sarah will also research information on recruiting and selecting future board members.**

## **11. LIBRARY BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS / FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**\*Garcia agreed to serve as interim Meeting Recorder until the 2024 annual meeting, when a Meeting Recorder will be elected for a one-year term.**

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

**Phirippidis moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 pm.**

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be February 14, 2024.