

MINUTES VGPL BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 20, 2025

ATTENDING: Mary Bonilla, John, Triolo, David Weaver, Martha Deutsch, Mary Heartlein, Kathleen Matta, James Oyster, Joe Durlak
Julia Kelso -Library Director

Excused absences: Kris Sefton, Monica Emerich, Samuel Jensen

Call to Order: Martha, Vice President

Public Comment: None

Approval of Meeting Agenda: David, moved and John, second

Bd. Minutes Approved: David, moved and James second

President Report (Martha):

- Fall appeal: Kris managed the list and has 2571 addresses for the mail out on November 10. Goal is to raise \$35K.
- Recent small business donations: \$100 and \$250 from a tax Business and graphic design company. Kathleen mentioned two pending donations.
- New website had successful launch.

Library Director Report:

- In addition to the monthly stats and report handouts, Julia mentioned that our current vendor is going out of business, and she is in the process of finding one more book vendor. She has approached Barnes and Noble and not had a response.
- Also, many volunteers are on vacation and more volunteers to help with daily operations are needed. Mary commented that more paid back up is needed as we are vulnerable with so little paid staff. An issue for the future.

Treasurers Report: David reported that our finances are very healthy. The grants and donations have helped a lot.

Joe asked why we have so much money in donations. David explained the timing in the pay out of county money and the recent family-foundation donation. Julia is also being conservative with spending until we hire a book keeper. The book keeper will help manage the spend-down of donation monies.

Book Keeper Search: On October 8, David and Kris spoke with a CPA firm in Albuquerque that specializes in remote financial management for non-profits. Pluses were that this company uses extensive professional accounting software. They would clean up our chart of accounts and create a

fresh set of books, while also converting our accounting system from a cash basis to accrual accounting. Cost would be \$10K to \$15K/annum. Use of their software license would be \$70 per month. We would still deposit donations. There may be underwriters thru this company to support some of the cost.

We would still deposit donations and print checks.

Development Report

Mary reported that the committee met and discussed ways to increase donations with events. The discussion also focused on how to bring in more money with the initiatives we already have. In January there will be a calendar created for the fund-raising year and another discussion of what the board can do to work smarter not harder. We went over the Fall Book Sale and the Year-end appeal.

Community Relations

Joe reported about the sub-committee focus on prizes for Trivia Nights. Jim and Joe collected many prizes from small businesses: 45 new prizes! Christine's nail salon made a \$75 donation because of their efforts. Trivia at Knuckles and at the Taphouse commenced as planned and was enjoyed by all.

IT Report

James reported that the committee met twice since the last board meeting. On Wednesday October 8, the new website conducted a test launch. Change-over went smoothly. Val added links on the donation feature. Julia and Tracy have been trained by Val. There will be another training for the board to learn how to add and subtract content. Martha cautioned about the misinterpretation of the quote about the witches being used. Julia clarified that many patrons had a positive reaction to the quote.

Announcements: The board is still looking for another member to round out the board to 13. Julia mentioned this Saturday is the library Halloween Party with Costume contest. Julia will be at her final state librarians conference as president.

NEXT MEETING: November 17, 5:30

Kathleen moved to adjourn.

