

Friends of Black Earth Public Library Meeting Minutes July 14, 2025

Present: Carla Huston (Library Director); Nettie Koenig (President); Marie Pecquex (Treasurer); Kathryn Wachs (Secretary); Nan Kember (Candidate, Member-at-Large); Kris Saeger (Candidate, Member-at-Large)

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Nettie at 4:06 PM.
2. **Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes.** Reviewed and approved. (Nettie motioned/Marie second).
3. **Treasurer's Report.** Marie reported our balances: \$13,289.73 in our Lake Ridge checking account; \$5,149.57 in our Vanguard money market account and \$38,867.48 in our Vanguard Wellington Fund for a total of \$57,360.78.

- New Business:
 - Marie has prepared the paperwork needed to obtain a raffle license. We will apply for a Class A license.
 - A motion to allow our Treasurer to automatically transfer funds in excess of \$5,000 from our checking account to our Vanguard money market account was approved. (Nettie motioned/Kathy second).

Treasurer's Report was reviewed and approved (Kathy motioned/Nettie second).

4. Library Director's Report.

- Carla is seeking permission from the Village to put bookshelves in the hallway which will allow for ongoing book sales.
- Upcoming Events
 - July & August: SLP will continue through July; Battle of the Books is scheduled on July 31; SLP prize drawings will begin in August; August

Adult programming includes Craft, Genealogy, Frauds & Scams as well as weekly drawings for APT tickets.

- September & October: "The Repurposed Library" and Any Book Club will be offered in September. October events include: Banned Book Club and a Veronica Hinke Edar Allen Poe program.
- Author Fair is planned for November.

5. Upcoming Fundraisers.

- The Silent Pie Auction is scheduled for July 22, 2025 during the Neil Diamond Concert in the Park.
- We have decided to raise the "buy early" price to \$50.00 per pie and the opening bid for all pies to \$25.00. Bidding will begin at 5:30 PM and will run until intermission at approximately 7:30 PM.
- Other changes:
 - With the Star News (now Times Tribune) reorganization, there are no longer free press releases for fundraisers.
 - The Board approved one ad (designed by newspaper) to run the Thursday before our event as well as a front page ad on the July 22 Buyer's Guide for \$59.24.
 - Annette will announce the Pie Auction at both the July 15th and July 22nd concerts.
 - Kathy will distribute reminders/"how to bid" slips during the July 22nd concert.
- Communication: TDS emails bounce back when any solicitation like "Silent Auction" is mentioned in either the subject line or body of the email. This has

impacted communication with 24 friends. Kathy will try to send a “Pie Event” email with the silent auction information included as an attachment.

- Caro will be asked to include a request in our next newsletter to our members with TDS email addresses to add us as a safe contact.

6. Business Baskets/November 2026

- Marie has prepared the paperwork needed to obtain a raffle license. We will apply for a Class A license.
- The event details will be planned during our May 2026 meeting.
- We will contact the organizers of the Wisconsin Heights Craft Fair to request a table at their November 2026 fair.
- The Board is considering alternating our annual Silent Art Auction with the Business Baskets Raffle beginning in November of 2026.

7. T Shirts & Totes Process.

- We will pursue offering library swag (T-Shirts and bags) via Bonfire.

8. Library Window Signage.

- Carla has installed the new signs and will forward the Vista Print invoice to Marie for payment.

9. Motion to add a 3rd Member-at-Large and Election of New At-Large Members.

- A motion to add a third Member-at-Large to the board was approved. (Nettie motioned/Kathy second).
- Nan Kember was unanimously elected to serve a two year term as Member-at-Large.

- Kris Saeger was unanimously elected to serve a two year term as Member-at-Large.

10. **Other Discussion Items.**

- Unsold Books from April Book Sale.
 - Nettie will contact 2nd Chapter Resale and the Ridgeway Volunteer Library to see if either/both would like to pick up some of our unsold books.
 - A Pop Up Sale was scheduled to run during Field Days on August 8 and 9 during library hours.
 - Tables with books for sale will be placed in the hallways outside the library. A donation jar will be placed at the circulation desk in the library.

11. **Schedule Next Meeting.** Our next meeting will be held on August 27, 2025 at 4:00 PM.

12. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 PM.