



High Plains Library District Friends & Foundation Board of Directors

Regular Session

February 3, 2025

LINC

4:00pm

1. OPENING OF MEETING

Meeting Opened At: 4:08 pm

1.1. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Director Wailes, Director Taylor, Secretary/Treasurer Forland (arrived at 4:20 pm)

Present via voice conference: Director Starr, Director Amodio, Director Evans

Absent: Director Epperson, Director Schnirel

Staff present: Executive Director Matthew Hortt, Foundation Director Niamh Mercer, Finance Manager Natalie Wertz, Development Coordinator Christina Hardman, Volunteer Services Coordinator Claudia Toledo (via voice conference), Friends & Foundation Associate Lauren Vanderlinden

1.2. Approval of Agenda (Action)

Motion: Director Taylor

Second: Director Wailes

Vote: Unanimously approved, 5;0

1.3. Approval of November 4, 2024 Minutes (Action)

Motion: Director Starr

Second: No second

Due to the absence of any other Board members who were in attendance at the 2024 Q4 meeting in question, the Chair directed that this item be postponed until the next meeting.

1.4. Public Comment

No public comment.

2. ITEMS FOR ACTION/INFORMATION

2.1. Board of Directors Icebreaker (Information)

The Board of Directors shared memorable experiences from their lives that made them library lovers.

2.2. Nomination of Officers (Action)

Motion: Director Evans

Second: Director Amodio

Vote: Unanimously approved, 5;0

The Board approved the slate of officers as presented. Director Wailes will now be referred to as Chair Wailes, Director Taylor will now be referred to as Vice Chair Taylor, and Secretary/Treasurer Forland will continue in her capacity as Secretary/Treasurer.

2.3. Nomination of Committees (Action)

Motion: Vice Chair Taylor

Second: Director Evans

Discussion: Board directed staff to add the nomination of additional Friends Committee members to an upcoming meeting due to the absence of several Board members who currently sit on said committee.

Vote: Unanimously approved, 6;0

Secretary Treasurer Forland joined the meeting at 4:20 pm.

Committee appointments listed below.

Finance: Julie Forland, Dr. Sara Amodio, Matthew Starr

Nomination/Selection: Lisa Taylor, Michael Wailes

Bylaws and Policy: Michael Wailes, Clark Evans

Friends: Lisa Taylor

Strategic Planning: Clark Evans, Dr. Sara Amodio, Matthew Starr

2.4. 2025 Development Plan Summary (Information)

Foundation Director Mercer presented the Friends & Foundation's 2025 Development Plan, specifically focusing on the projects that applied for and received funding through the Request for Funding Support application.

3. FINANCE REPORT Natalie Wertz-Finance Manager

Finance Manager Natalie Wertz provided a report on the Friends & Foundation's end-of-year financials for 2024.

4. FOUNDATION REPORT Niamh Mercer-Foundation Director

Foundation Director Mercer presented the 2024 Foundation Summary.

She additionally shared that the Friends & Foundation has been awarded a Weld Trust Flagship grant to support the Mobile Workforce Unit. Vice Chair Taylor noted that she will not be serving as the Weld Trust's internal HPLD advocate during her term on the Trustees and F&F board to prevent any conflicts of interest.

5. BOARD COMMENTS

Vice Chair Taylor complimented the HPLD F&F staff's work soliciting volunteers and gifts, noting how quickly and warmly the team acknowledges gifts of all size.

Secretary/Treasurer Forland was stunned and delighted to hear about the Weld Trust grant, and shared how much she enjoys seeing the many and varied projects and services that the F&F is funding this year, particularly the Memory Care Kits.

Director Starr noted how proud he is of the F&F's growth in recent years, and highlighted how well-communicated and managed all projects are.

Director Amodio reported being blown away by the Mobile Workforce Unit grant, and expressed gratitude for the amazing work being done by such a small team at the F&F. She also shared that the District is a valuable resource for the community that we are lucky to have.

Director Evans shared his gratitude at joining the F&F board, as well as his excitement about the upcoming Weld Trust grant.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Vice Chair Taylor

Second: Director Amodio

Vote: Unanimously approved, 6;0

Meeting Adjourned: 5:08 pm