

**MINUTES**  
**Rohnert Park – Cotati Regional Library LAB**  
**October 15, 2024 @ 5:00pm**  
**Held at the Rohnert Park – Cotati Regional Library**

**PRESENT: VOTING BOARD MEMBERS – TERM ENDS JUNE 30 YEAR LISTED**

Loreen Atallah – Vice Chair (2025)

Jill Jorgensen – Chair (2025)

Paulina Brassington (2026)

Lisa Neuson (2026)

Gabriela Dewald – Youth Member (2025)

Heather Worker (2025)

**PRESENT: EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**

Barbara Mackenzie (RP Library Commissioner)

Jennifer Ryder (RP-C Branch Manager)

Jake Mackenzie (FOL President)

Barbara Maes (SCL District Manager)

**1. CONVENING & INTRODUCTIONS**

Called at 5:05

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PRIOR MEETING**

**2.1 APPROVAL OF AUGUST MEETING MINUTES**

Jean Schulz – update that in the minutes.

Feedback about our calendar, other LABs intend to model calendar.

Loreen Atallah made a motion, Gabriela seconded, all in favor.

**3. REPORTS & UPDATES**

**3.1 LIBRARY COMMISSIONER’S REPORT**

- There is a new Cotati Commissioner – Tina Poles
- Barbara Mackenzie is focusing on the archives display in the library.
- Big County-wide history day the library system and Sonoma County Historical Society have a history day. Sat. Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> it will be at the Vet center.
- Rohnert Park table with sign-up sheet.
- Attended the Housing Fair and the Repair Fair.
- Barbara Mackenzie is the new chair of the Finance Committee for the Library Commission
- Attended the Beneath a Tree event.
- Helped with FOL Book Sale.
- Attended People’s Services HUB opening in Rohnert Park – Ray Holley attended.
- Attended All Staff Day

**3.2 LIBRARY DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

- In October, the library will be celebrating Latin American Roots, LGBTQIA+ roots, and TeenTober
- Library is closed on Nov 11 for Veterans Day
- Oct 10 closed for All Staff Day
- Windsor library will be closing at the beginning of the year for two months, January 5 – March 3.
- Cloverdale is next for a closure to update their patio; they will put that off until the Healdsburg re-modernization is closer to being done.
- New self-checkout machines at all libraries.
- New library catalog, Bibliocommons.
- FOL week is Oct 20-26.
- New Cotati Commissioner Tina Poles.

### **3.3 BRANCH MANAGER'S REPORT**

- ROHN is the busiest branch in the system.
- We have a new Supervising Adult Services Librarian, Jason, who introduced himself.

### **3.4 YOUTH MEMBER'S REPORT**

- Gabriela missed the last meeting.
- Gabriela has had more interactions, seeing teens reading more books in Sophomore year.
- Every student must read 150 pages of a book per quarter. It's a minimum. They get to pick their own. Cool to see a teacher implement a way to encourage kids to read.
- Heard a lot about the study pods at school.
- Her school doesn't have a library, but they have a student center. Recently they said they're expanding the library and asking for student input. They got a lot of good feedback. Gabriela mentioned the FOL books.

### **3.5 FRIENDS OF THE ROHNERT PARK – COTATI REGIONAL LIBRARY REPORT**

- They had a successful book sale in the first week of October. Made over \$4000.
- Business isn't normal because of the extra donations. They found that they had many books that they could not store. Due to Petaluma downsizing.
- The FOL paid for the second study pod.
- They will be having a board meeting next Monday on Oct 21.

### **3.6 CITY COUNCIL LIAISONS' REPORTS**

- No city councilors today

### **3.7 LAB CHAIR REPORT**

- Jill volunteered to schedule the next All-LAB chair meeting, hopefully the next week of December.
- Jill sent the recap of the All-Chair meeting.
- Hoping to get more feedback and questions, including initiatives for the new year.
- On Facebook, there's a large neighbor group, surprised to see two posts from people asking about the library.
  - People were responding saying that it's free.
  - Surprising that people still think that the library costs money.
- At the next meeting we will adjust our calendar.
- Other branches are doing:
  - Bilingual survey at Windsor. They provided an incentive of a free book. They gave away 60 books for 60 surveys.
  - Another LAB invites guests from other non-profits to be guest speakers and talk about if there's room for collaboration, or just learning what each other does.
  - Barbara Mackenzie mentioned the Land Paths and Sonoma County Regional Parks were promoting great free programs.

#### **4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

#### **5. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **5.1 Public gathering idea from Sonoma?**

- Jill has an update from Beverly at Sonoma. She will coordinate with her separately.

#### **6. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **6.1 Reception for Rohnert Park – Cotati Library patron card winner, Caleb, before a LAB meeting.**

- Dara will reach out to Ray Holley to see if we could contact Caleb.

##### **6.2 Participating in the Rohnert Park Festival of Lights Event in December.**

- Saturday from 5-8 Dec 7, tree lighting at 7pm.
- LAB would be interested; Jen will sign up the library and LAB and send out a sign-up sheet.

##### **6.3 Using LAB funds to purchase more giveaways or for a gathering/reception.**

- They still have some books and some candy and other giveaways.
- Maybe consider getting more chapter books.
- Library sunglasses

#### **6.4 LAB Elections**

- Deferring to next meeting

#### **6.5 Review LAB Bylaws**

- Jen will send out bylaws to review.
- Deferred until next meeting.

#### **6.6 Consider attending Cotati Outreach events**

- Cotati Candyland on Oct 31<sup>st</sup>
- Cotati tree light Fri Dec 6<sup>th</sup> from 4-8
- Fall Festival is this month on the 19<sup>th</sup>
- December downtown shop and stroll on Dec 7<sup>th</sup>, same day they'll be doing the Rohnert Park one.
- LAB will not be participating in these events this year.

#### **6.7 Any other new business.**

### **7. ADJOURNMENT - Next 2024 LAB Meeting: December 17, 2024 at 5:00pm**

The meeting ending at 6:05pm.