

Friends of ImagineIF Libraries  
Meeting Minutes for February 16, 2023  
ImagineIF Library Kalispell

F. McAllister called the Friends of ImagineIF Libraries (FOIL) meeting to order at 12:00 PM with 15 members present.

**Attendees:** Francy McAllister, Roxie Lehl, Marylane Pannell, Bonnie Gardner, Janice Kalvig, Sharon Furlong, Adele Murphy, Cindy Roberts, Adam Tunnell, Michele Tohtz, Barb Boorman, Charlene Hazlett, Ashley Cummins, Ken Fielder, and Jill Carlberg.

**Minutes from March Meeting – J. Carlberg, Secretary**

Minutes were emailed after the last meeting to members. M. Tohtz moved to approve; C. Roberts seconded. Minutes were approved by all with no changes.

**Treasurer's Report – M. Pannell, Treasurer**

FOIL has a balance of \$15,915.97 in our account. We recently paid \$1000 in bills for the storage unit, Lion's Park cabin, PO Box, and Library support.

Marylane will be living out of state in the Winter going forward, so she would like to step down from the Treasurer position. If you are interested in being Treasurer for FOIL, please reach out.

**Old Business**

**Book Sale –R. Lehl, Vice President**

We recently moved boxes from the cabin to the storage shed, so we will be planning another book sort in a couple of weeks. Please keep an eye out for the email and come help if you can. Sharon Furlong picked up the boxes of books for the Food Bank, too. A date for the Annual Book Sale is forthcoming.

**Committee Reports**

**Flathead County Library Alliance (FCLA) – J. Carlberg**

Nothing new to report.

**Membership – R. Lehl, Vice President**

**If you have not renewed your membership, please do so.** As a reminder, our membership levels are:

- \$25 - Annual single
- \$35- Annual family
- \$250 - Lifetime

We have two ways for you to join and pay:

- Online at: <https://www.imagineiffriends.com/join>
- By check: Payable to Friends of ImagineIF Libraries; send to P.O. Box 3403, Kalispell, MT 59903

### ***Homebound Program – M. Tohtz***

The program has seven active volunteers. We may be getting some new patrons soon and need more volunteers. Volunteering does not take much time and is a very rewarding way to give. If you are interested in volunteering to deliver and pick up books and other materials from the library to someone who needs help, please call one of the program's coordinators listed below:

Michele Tohtz, Kalispell Homebound Coordinator, [406.871.1533](tel:406.871.1533)

Marylane Pannell, Kalispell Homebound Coordinator, [406.871.7613](tel:406.871.7613)

### **Staff Appreciation Luncheon**

FOIL is hosting a Staff Appreciation Luncheon at ImagineIF's All Staff Meeting on March 6 at the Kalispell Library location. If you have not signed up to make and deliver food and are interested, please contact Francy Mc Allister at 406-407-0168 or [fhmcallister2@gmail.com](mailto:fhmcallister2@gmail.com).

We will need to have lunch ready at 11:45 AM. Food deliveries should start at 10 AM. The Library will be closed that day so we will have someone posted at the side entrance to let people in and collect food. The luncheon will be held on the second floor.

### ***Spring Event Idea – J. Carlberg***

Pam Haglund, Adele Murphy, Laura Hill, Sharon Furlong, and Jill Carlberg put together a proposal for a new Spring Event to:

- Initiate a Springtime event to show visible support for ImagineIF Libraries and staff.
- Build awareness of ImagineIF Libraries and Friends of ImagineIF Libraries.
- Bring library lovers in our community together to have fun and celebrate.

The full proposal will be sent with these minutes, but here are some highlights:

- Scheduling for Sunday, May 21, from 1:30-3:30 PM
- Includes a short walk from the Library in Kalispell to a festival at Conrad Mansion where we will have a variety of activities, information booths, and refreshments outside.

A volunteer sign-up sheet will also be sent with these minutes. We hope that you will consider volunteering and also coming out that day with your family and friends!

J. Carlberg motioned that FOIL undertake this new event as outlined in the proposal, incorporating any comment from the meeting discussion; S. Furlong seconded it. All agreed.

The group also voted on a name for the event. The event will be called "Spring Forward with ImagineIF Libraries."

### ***ImagineIF Library –Ashley Cummins, Executive Director***

The Library is currently busy with the budget, planning Summer Experience, and dealing with security issues. Things are going well and Ashley will present a draft of the new strategic plan at the Trustees Board Meeting next week. There will be a get together Tuesday, February 21, at 7:00 PM with library staff at the Ark facility in Bigfork. All are welcome to attend. The Library staff are looking forward to the All Staff Meeting Luncheon.

Questions on security at the library were raised. Ashley explained that they have been experiencing regular issues at the library and staff are not trained to deal with these type of security issues. She met with a security outfit this morning and feels good about it. The new firm is slated to start next week and will have a person at the library six days a week in the afternoons.

***ImagineIF Foundation – A. Tunnell, Executive Director***

Bigfork update: The Foundation is rapidly approaching \$1 MM in its Bigfork capital campaign, representing a big milestone. The Foundation made a \$250k donation to help reinvigorate the campaign. Adam met with the architect and put together an RFP to go out for the renovation work. They are hoping to begin the construction work around the end of August. Their last event—Reading between the Lines—was great. The concept of author talks/ gala went over well. They are exploring an early August (before renovation begins in Bigfork) author event, which perhaps will become a biannual Spring/ Fall event. They are excited about FOIL's Spring Event idea and have some connections with musicians if we cannot find a music source. Adam asked that FOIL members help the Foundation by reaching out to everyone you know about the Bigfork Campaign and the Foundation itself. Adam is happy to meet/talk with anyone who is interested. Many people in the community are still unaware of all that has happened/is happening, so reaching out is important.

On the Kalispell front, the current lease on the Kalispell building is up in 2033. Although that may seem a ways off, we need to start planning now for a new facility. The old Herberger's store is being explored as a possible site.

The Foundation has recently decided to reduce their regular meeting dates to seven times a year. Adam also extended an invitation for interested people to join their committees – Events, Communications, Finance—even if they are not Board members. Adam is also interested in speaking to anyone interested in being a Board member.

Mark your calendars to come out to Sacred Waters on March 14 from 6-8:00 PM. The Foundation is hosting Bingo that evening and will get \$1 for every pint sold!

**FOIL Website**

FOIL has had its own website ([www.imagineiffriends.com](http://www.imagineiffriends.com)) for over a year now and hopes that all FOIL members have visited it. We work to keep it up-to-date on what is happening and want to use it as a platform to share information on our activities. Jill asked Ashley if the Library could simply link to the FOIL site from its site rather than create their own content on FOIL activities as the information can get out of synch. Jill will reach out to Lune Axelson, who manages the Library's website, directly to discuss.

**New Business**

***FOIL Representatives needed for Trustee Meetings***

The ImagineIF Board of Trustees has asked that FOIL have a representative attend their meetings and share updates on FOIL activities. We do not need to have the same representative at every meeting. If you are interested in attending a Board meeting on behalf of FOIL, please contact Francy at [fhmcallister2@gmail.com](mailto:fhmcallister2@gmail.com).

***Book Club – Various members***

At the last meeting, the club discussed the “Personal Librarian” by Maria Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. The club is growing and having interesting conversations at each meeting. The next book is “The Precious Years” by Ann Patchett and it will be discussed on March 14 at 3:00 PM in the meeting room in Kalispell Library. For the full list of books, visit:

<https://www.imagineiffriends.com/get-involved>

**Interlibrary Loans – Great Service!**

B. Boorman gave a shout out to the interlibrary loan service that we have available to us at ImagineIF. Barb was seeking a unique book and she was able to get it through this service in just 2 weeks from a small library across the country. Way to go ImagineIF and thanks Barb for raising awareness of this service!

**Mark your Calendars:**

**Next FOIL Meeting:** March 16 at noon in the meeting room at ImagineIF Kalispell

**Staff Appreciation Lunch** – March 6 at ImagineIF Kalispell

**ImagineIF Trustees Meeting:** February 23 at South Campus Conference Room (40 11<sup>th</sup> Street W in Kalispell) at 9:00 AM

McAllister adjourned the meeting.

Jill Carlberg, Friends of ImagineIF Libraries, Secretary