

**OAXACA LENDING LIBRARY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JULY 17, 2025**

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at: 11:05 a.m.

Present: Bonny Weil, Gail Ament, Carol Ringold, John Dumser, John Hunter, Abe Torres, Adriana Pérez Maldonado, José Luis Zárate, & Ian Hawley.

Absent: Ralph Gault, Viviana Ruiz Boijseauneau

GUESTS

Jeff Stewart (See new business at the end)

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None

APPROVAL OF JUNE MINUTES

Motion to approve by: John Hunter, seconded by, Carol Ringold. None opposed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Welcome to our new treasurer, John Dumser!
- David Stall comic-book art classes for adolescents are scheduled to begin next Tuesday. We have 4 people signed up. It's a 5-week course.
- Writing for English-speaking/bilingual adults by Steve Scena, has about 12 signed up. Jose Luis is taking the class and gives it a thumbs up.
- Friends of Oaxacan Folk Art (FOFA) Monica Diaz met with Adriana and Gail. Monica asked if we could use the library to recognize the winners of this years' competition for 18 to 35 yr. old artists. We'd like to have a workshop for making Catrinas here prior to day of the dead. FOFA has artisans willing to lead groups. A hands-on workshop would be useful. It'll be in Spanish.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- The foundation provides two OLLF reports indicating expenses and contributions at the end of each month.
- At the end of the year, OLLF sends an IRS tax acknowledgment. Everyone who sends a donation should get a thank you note. We can take this up at the next meeting.
- A transfer from the foundation of \$56,000 mxn was made at the end of June. Our income for the month of June was \$118,154 mxn. The July big ticket item was the July 4th BBQ. We had ticket sales of \$31,000 mxn in round numbers. Budget numbers this month do not include the cost of the July 4th OLL event.
- Kate Hart took in \$5,980 pesos last month for book sales.

- Motion to approve this month's treasurer report by: Ian, seconded by: Abe. None opposed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

- Donataria Autorizada: On track for August
- Elections Nominating Committee: We have BJ Ferguson and would like 1 or 2 more volunteers. There are two directors at large who are up against term limits. Jose Luis and Viviana. Gail & Bonny would like to continue another year in their current positions.
- Revisit policy on digital nomads at the request of the Book Committee and front-desk volunteers a motion was made to approve rescission of charging digital nomads (with encouragement to become library members) by: John Hunter, seconded by: John Dumser. None opposed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Social Committee: Went \$7,400 pesos over budget on the Holiday Picnic. Enaj has resigned as chair.
- Book Committee: Wants board minutes in a "timely manner." Since we have liaisons to each committee, news can be disseminated that way, and policies are not put into place until the minutes are approved the following month. Draft minutes will continue going out one week before each board meeting. If board members need to see draft versions sooner, the secretary can produce them.
- Chairpersons needed: A few committees are in need of chairs. David Myler is de facto chair right now on Facilities & Design and there are three on this committee. John Hunter will step up as chair for outreach. Carol will chair fundraising. We still need a chair for the social committee.

OTHER

None

NEW BUSINESS

1966-2026: OLL 60th Anniversary Report by Jeff Stewart, chair of fundraising for the event.

The anniversary planning is being tackled on two fronts:

1. The Celebration. (John Dumser, John Hunter, co-chairs) Numerous possibilities; designate an ad hoc committee; leadership. A Plan will be presented at the August Board meeting.
2. The Fundraising: (Jeff Stewart, chair) name the campaign, rename OLLF account; designate an ad hoc committee; leadership.
Jeff Stewart has the floor to present the current plan. Members of Jeff's group are: Carol, John Hunter, Bliss, & Kit Dickey in Oregon, who will be here later in the year.

- The two bifurcated groups are related and will work together. Jeff has sent working notes to the board. The goal is to raise \$60,000 usd at which point we'll have \$90,000 usd in reserve. The proceeds from the campaign will be set aside in interest bearing accounts that can grow with time. In an emergency, our existing \$30,000 usd reserve fund could be wiped out.
- Our baseline is to ask for donations. We haven't *asked* since covid. That will revolve around personal outreach. Five to ten ambassadors will host small events; dinner, drinks, high tea. We're working on a pamphlet for fundraising that will be available at the library and at fundraising events. Jeff and his partner Dave will donate the funds for the pamphlet and a high-end bookmark.
- Our Timeline: The core campaign will run November thru March, with personalized outreach in October. There will be 1 or 2 terrace talks to celebrate the History of OLL. We'll have some info on the website, in the newsletter, and signage in the library. In November we will launch with a presence in the library, and a donor request attachment to the newsletter. There will be a pitch at Thanksgiving. At the end of January, a boutique. The celebration committee is considering a big fiesta.
- When the campaign ends in April, Carol will head up an ongoing fundraiser committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by: John Hunter, seconded by, John Dumser. None opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at: 12:25 pm