

**Minutes
WMLF Board Meeting
August 21, 2025**

Present:

**McKensie Avens, Chair Cody Long, Vice Chair
Barbara Bravo, Treasurer Christine Coffield, Board Member
Darilyn Berg, Board Member Bill Ehrlich, Board Member
Demian Ryder, Board Member Kristine Rios, WML Circulation Coordinator**

1. **Call to order:** McKensie called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.
2. **Approval of 7/17/25 Minutes:** Minutes from July's meeting were approved by a motion from Bill and a second by Darilyn, unanimously approved.
3. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **Treasurer's Report:** Barb reported that the main CBT account is now at \$4,465.13 after a \$621.70 donation. The CBT certificate is now at \$17,203.84. There was some discussion on consolidation of various accounts and Barb will look into that to see what's in the best interest of the Friends accounts. Cody motioned to approve the Treasurer's report and was seconded by Demian, unanimously approved.
 - b. **Librarian's Report:** Heather sent a Director's Report for the Friends to review - it has been attached to the end of the minutes. Kristine was also in attendance and offered her support for the Friends with her marketing and design skills for the Friends needs as we grow. Bill motioned to approve the Librarian's report and was seconded by Darilyn, unanimously approved.

4. Old Business

- a. **Record Interim Vote(s):** On Tuesday, July 29th McKensie sent a text to the Board asking about a book signing policy point that had been discussed previously. It was posed for a vote to require authors that have book signings to donate a book to the library in return for being hosted and promoted. Demian motioned to approve this and it was seconded by Cody, unanimously approved.
- b. **Zeffy Update/Policy Setup:** McKensie reported that Zeffy is officially up and running! We now have a link and a QR code available to take online donations and we will also be able to let people pay for items with credit card through Zeffy. The board will include a disclaimer on the website along with the donation link and QR code that explains Zeffy's optional charge on top of donation to go toward Zeffy's operational expense. It was also decided that Zeffy will not be used for membership fees as this would introduce a whole new avenue of information to track.
- c. **Lynn Martin Memorial Info:** At this time Lynn's memorial item will be put on hold. The librarians are looking into memorial items and once something comes to mind, they will decide on an avenue for that. Bill mentioned Design Toscano and that they may have items, and Darilyn also brought up she has a relative who had a nice memorial plaque done for decent pricing - she will reach out to see who did that. Barb also mentioned that it would be neat to have some sort of art scholarship in Lynn's memory and her artistic/creative abilities.

5. New Business

- a. **Upcoming Events Discussion (Early Settlers Day, Tarantula Fest):** Board discussed upcoming events and that we will run these similarly to last year. Signup sheets will go out soon and we will have boxes of books for children - one free book per child. (Leftover from the most recent book sale.) Darilyn also has some children's books she can donate to keep us going depending on volume dispensed. Since we now have Zeffy operational McKensie will have the QR code printed along with the link to go with our donation cash box. Bill had mentioned after last TF about having some sort of Tarantula booklet or info - he will look into that. Kristine had passed along info on a possible grant from 4imprint - nonprofits can submit a grant application to receive up to \$500 for marketing supplies. This does have to be submitted at least 2 months prior to events so McKensie has bookmarked the grant and will look at completing this for next year's booths. Barb asked about candy for the booth and McKensie will check to see if the candy is any good and if not, will look at purchasing more for the booths.
- b. **October National Friends of the Library Fundraiser Planning:** Group discussed gameplan for October with the Friends week and our fundraising. We will have some items for the silent auction and will make calls to local businesses to see about donations for items like baskets. Cody suggested a signup sheet where we can all pitch in to make those calls - McKensie will make that sheet and get it out in the next couple weeks. We will have the week-long silent auction in the display case and the guessing game fundraiser in the main area next to the librarian - confirmed as \$1 per guess and we'll have each jar result in a \$15 food certificate. Silent auction items will be lettered and have corresponding bidding sheets in with the librarian at the front desk. Darilyn has already generously donated some items and Christine also mentioned a donation of a neat calligraphy/letter set her daughter makes. When Saturday ends and wraps up Friends week McKensie will go by to collect info for auction and guessing game winners. As already approved we'll have Mike and Chuck Bowen for a book signing on Saturday that week. The board also received interest

from Sheri Dubois, another local author. After review of her info we approved her for either Wednesday or Thursday evening that week. Since it is also the Friends 30th anniversary McKensie spoke with Heather about putting together a sort of '30 years of history with the Friends' sort of deal and she was happy to help with that. She thinks she has some photos of different events through the years to go along with info that can be compiled. McKensie will reach out to Kristine to work on a type of flier/Friends week calendar so we can market the week, the fundraiser, and the book signings.

- c. **Ark Valley Entertainment Interview/Update:** Trent asked if we would want to do another interview to post an update for the Friends and McKensie agreed. This will happen soon and she will be able to include info from the Friends regarding Zeffy, Facebook, ESD & TF, and our October Fundraising/Friends week.
6. **Adjourn:** With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46pm.

7. Dates to Remember:

- a. **Saturday, August 30th - Lynn Martin's Celebration of Life, 12-4pm**
- b. **Saturday, September 6th - Early Settler's Day WMLF Booth**
- c. **Thursday, September 18th - WMLF Virtual Mtg 5:30pm**
- d. **Saturday, September 27th - Tarantula Fest WMLF Booth**

Respectfully submitted,

McKensie Avens

Director's Report July 2025

The good HVAC compressor went out the end of June and was not able to be replaced till July 8th, after working in sweltering conditions for almost 2 weeks the library closed half a day Monday July 7th & 8th. Thankfully we already had a replacement ordered and here it was just not able to be replaced before the good one quit.

Summer Reading Program finished up July 19th. We had 385 participants this year an increase of 36 more participants. We held the Pool Party July 29th even though it was almost rained out we had 72 participants show up.

We held events for birth - 6th grade on Tuesday and Thursdays @ 10am and a Lego Club on Wednesday evenings @ 4:30pm. Teen events for 7th - 12th grade was on Fridays @ 1pm.

3 Tuesday events	2 Wednesday Lego Club	3 Thursday events	1 Friday Teen event
306 participants	43 participants	301 participants	12 participants

Participation for one of our Thursday events had a significant drop in attendance due to city transit not running busses on July 3rd, none of the daycare that rely on them to come to programming were able to attend that event. We were able to offer the craft for them as a take-n-make the following week.

I submitted a grant for just under \$50,000 to help with the replacement of the other compressor for the HVAC and money to help fund a temporary part-time position. It is through the Community Investment Program supported by Three Corners Connector, in partnership with Southern Colorado Economic Development District. We should hear something the end of August as they move through the process and their committee begins to review the applications.

Fieldprint brought in \$6.00 for the library for the month. We had 2 appointments.

We registered 10 new kids into the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Colorado program, we currently have 469 active kids in Otero County receiving a free book each month. We have also graduated 286 kids since July 2022.

