We are in the midst of winter storm, Harper. The threat prompted cancellation several days earlier of an FOL mini book bag sale scheduled impromptu at the January 7 meeting for Saturday, January 19. The next one is scheduled for February 2. Friends is currently blessed with an abundance of fiction including large print, paperback and hard cover, audio books, and children's books.

Members have been reviewing proposed changes in the bylaws. After the November 5 meeting, they were significantly revised and re-proposed January 7. After discussion, a straw vote revealed they would pass. New to the proposal was the addition of an Advisory Council. A few tweaks will be made in consultation with attorney and current Board of Director member, Chad Miner and the final proposal will be formally voted on at the annual meeting February 4. At that time members will also elect five (5) Board of Directors, the officers, and members of the Advisory Council. Nominations will be taken from the floor.

Standing Committees were introduced; hospitality, fundraising-booksales with the subcategory; task force, membership, and a Friends of the Library liaison to the Board of Library Trustees. There has been a good response with members eager to be actively involved. The Hospitality Committee, chaired by Bonnie Kellem, have come out of the gates running. 'Community' is the theme for February. They are asking members to donate from a specific list, items to support the Choice Pantry of Salvation Army and the food pantry of CCS. The Committee will then deliver those items brought to the February 4 meeting. Bree Robinson chairs the Membership Committee. She accepts annual dues which were payable this month. She will be collecting them at the February meeting too. The Fundraising-Booksale Committee and task force members will be working on the Love-a-Book Cafe. See WCPL newsletter CHECK it OUT! It will also be advertised in the Times-Union with accompanying article.

Friends of the Library is hosting our Love-a-Book Cafe and mid-size book sale on Valentine's Day this year, Thursday, February 14, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Featured will be Blind Date with a Book, each purchase will have a Rate Your Date slip. The winner receives a free one year FOL membership and a box of chocolates and will be announced at the April 1 meeting. The book sale will contain romance, of course, mystery/suspense, sci-fi, cookbooks, audio books, music, movies and children's, just to name a few. Donations will be accepted in our Cafe. Linger for a coffee or hot chocolate and a sweet treat. Cinnamon rolls and scones will be offered. Other surprises may entice you to spend time with Friends on Valentine's Day at the library!

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