

Minutes for the Friends of the Arlington Public Library Board Meeting  
March 18, 2013  
Central Library, Second Floor Meeting Room

- I. Call to Order: 7:05 PM
  1. Board Members and Guests in Attendance: Kit Ballenger, Katherine Regeimbal, Julia Karell, Rachel Wood, Kathy Snyder, Lynwood Sinnamon, Nadine Berg, Eva Griffeth, Julie Bordwell, Neil Phelps, Nathan Norton, Mariel Tewksbury, Nada Sulaiman.
  2. Kit requested that Item IV on the Agenda, Update on Wordpress web presence, be removed from the discussion.
  3. Eva Griffeth offered a motion to approve the minutes from the February 11, 2013 meeting. Nathan Norton seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
  
- II. Treasurer's Report
  1. Nathan Norton distributed the Friends of the Library Account Balances as of 3/18/2013. He noted that the Arlington Community Foundation amount is closer to \$1.6 million. He also asked that the \$23,000 in donations be placed in the endowment and this was approved. It was also agreed that the Urban Bird Grant, which shows as zero and is no longer needed, be removed. It was also noted that some donations are to specific libraries and are available to be spent. Nathan agreed to check on why Cherrydale Library was not listed, and whether or not there might still be funds available.
  2. Nathan also distributed the Friends of the Library FY2013 Operating Budget Summary as of 3/18/2013. He noted that there is more than \$100,000 in the Library Services Support that still needs to be invoiced.
  
- III. New Business
  1. Kit said that Carol Bursik had decided to resign from the Board as the representative for Columbia Pike library and so a replacement would need to be found.
  2. Kit began a discussion about the Arlington School Librarians Scholarship Award and whether or not the Friends would want to support this scholarship with a \$1,000 donation. She noted that in the past the Friends donated \$500 and this was then matched. However, last year the Friends donated \$1,000 because the match was no longer available. This award is given to a high school senior who writes an essay about his or her library experience. During the discussion it was suggested that perhaps the Friends could continue their donation, but instead split the award into two \$500 awards to be used for books and to change the name of the award to the Friends of the Arlington Public Library

Scholarship Award. A motion was offered by Nathan to split the existing Arlington School Librarians Scholarship award into two \$500 awards and to change the name to the Friends of the Arlington Public Library Scholarship Award. The motion was seconded by Julie and passed.

3. The Emergency Preparedness Focus Group is meeting with various organizations in the county in an effort to find out what the county is missing in terms of helping people to be more prepared for an emergency. They have requested an opportunity to give a presentation and to meet with the FOAL to see if the members might have thoughts on preparedness that they would like to share. It was agreed that we would like to participate. However, since the agenda for our April meeting will be focused on the book sale, Nathan will contact Debbie Powers, the Deputy Coordinator for the Office of Emergency Management, and invite her to our May meeting.
4. Neil provided an update on the upcoming April book sale. He said that Lyn will start asking for volunteers and that Julia should open up the participation to anyone in the library who would like to help. He said that the flyer was ready and that he would distribute it to the Friends. Mariel will use the same postcard as last year and have it ready to mail on Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. Neil noted that he will need some money for overhead supplies but that there are enough boxes. Kit mentioned that at the current time it looked like the Stern family would take care of the food. There was a discussion about the best way to identify FOAL volunteers at the book sale, and Kit agreed to look into ordering 50 aprons or vests.

#### IV. Old Business

1. Kit provided an update on the purchase of the banner and the logo for the front of the podium. She said that we could get both a 2 ft. by 6 ft. banner that said *Brought to you by the Friends of the Arlington Public Library* with the Friends' logo and the writing underneath and a thick plastic Friends' logo for the podium with the writing underneath for \$220. Everyone agreed that this was a good price and should be purchased. Neil also mentioned that he would like a sandwich board sign that said *Book Sale Today*.

#### V. Library Staff Report

1. Katherine Regeimbal from Youth Services provided an update on the Summer Reading program. She said that the theme for this year's program would be *Dig Into Reading*, which has a connection to gardening, construction, and dinosaurs. She noted that in the past the program was done in conjunction with a donation. A year ago it had been to benefit Haiti, and last year the Reading Connection. She said that since there had been an

international and then a local connection, there was some interest in having a national connection. One suggestion would be to benefit some of the libraries damaged by Hurricane Sandy. She also distributed some sample flyers about the summer reading program.

2. Kit mentioned that she would like to figure out ways to address the discrepancy between the registration and completion rate for the summer reading program. There was some discussion about whether there should be checkpoints at different points or a raffle etc. Consideration was given to whether there could be a \$25 gift certificate to an Arlington bookstore and perhaps the bookstore would provide a match. Julia and Kit agreed to explore this idea.
3. Julia Karell noted that a lot of library activities were planned around the introduction of the new program that would allow children to check out one of the dolls in the American Girls collection for one week. Each doll would have a kit that would include a journal where experiences with the doll could be recorded. In addition, there would be an information card about what was happening in Arlington during the specific time period of the doll and a book about the doll. The Virginia Room at the library did the historical research and produced the posters about the events taking place in Arlington representative of each doll's time period. The *Washington Post* did an article about this new program.
4. Julia noted that there will be launch parties for the dolls at the various branches and that one of the authors, Valerie Tripp, will be coming to Cherrydale Library on April 4<sup>th</sup> and she is not charging for her appearance. Both Kit and Kathy agreed to help with the sale of Valerie Tripp's books which will be signed by the author.
5. Rachel Wood said that during the budget work session with the County Board, Diane Kresh mentioned the ongoing support of the Friends. She said that the work session went well.
6. It has been decided that the Gatsby Ball, renamed the 813 ball, will take place in the Artisphere location.

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM and the next board meeting will be on April 15, 2013 at 7:00 PM.