

Minutes for the Friends of the Arlington Public Library Board Meeting
November 19, 2012
Central Library, Second Floor Meeting Room

- I. Call to Order: 7:00 PM
 1. Board Members and Guests in Attendance: Kit Ballenger, Mariel Tewksbury, Carol Bursik, Julia Karell, Gary Gortenburg, Doug Gardner, Eva Griffeth, Nadine Berg, Kathy Snyder, Julie Bordwell.
 2. There were no amendments to the November 19th agenda.
 3. Kathy Snyder offered a motion to approve the minutes from the October 15th meeting, and it was seconded by Gary Gortenburg and passed.

- II. Treasurer's Report
 1. Nathan Norton was not in attendance, but Mariel distributed and reviewed the account balances and budget in his absence. She noted the increase in the investment fund (endowment donations). Kit read some comments from Dean Daniel clarifying that the current distribution of 50% bonds and 50% stocks is a good allocation for this investment at the present time. During the early part of next year, it may be time to reevaluate this strategy.
 2. Mariel also expressed concern about the fact that the general material support funding was not being spent. Julia explained the process for the materials spending.
 3. There was a discussion about the cost of E-books and Julia explained the different arrangements for their purchase and use. Kit said that at a future meeting she would like the Board to have a presentation on E-books so that we could have a better understanding of this process. Julia will make arrangements for Rachel Wood, a library employee with knowledge about E-books, to address the Board.
 4. Mariel asked if the Board would approve the payment of our annual dues to the American Library Association and to the Virginia Library Association. It was noted that the Virginia Library Association uses this funding to lobby the Virginia General Assembly in support of the library agenda.
 5. Mariel distributed the Friends of the Library Membership counts as of 11/18/2012 and noted that they were doing well. There were many membership renewals at both the Book Sale and the PuzzleFest events.

- II. Library Staff Report
 1. Julia said that over 131 people attended the PuzzleFest event and that the reviews were positive. There were some suggestions to have the event multiple times during the year. The Board agreed that Doug Gardner did an excellent job of coordinating this event. When Doug

arrived he noted that his expenses were \$1,152.00 and Mariel estimated that the PuzzleFest brought in about \$700. Doug affirmed his willingness to do this again next year. There was a discussion about offering the PuzzleFest T-shirts for sale next year, because there was so much interest in their purchase at the event. Doug also mentioned that he already had speakers for next year's event. There was some discussion about the new lunch option. It was noted that if taxes needed to be paid on the food, that this should be factored into the quoted price to prevent any financial loss. Julia said that the library e-mailed all of the participants from the previous year and Doug sent e-mails to all who expressed an interest in the event and contacted him throughout the year. It was also noted how again this year only a small number of people actually pre-registered for the event.

2. Eva Griffeth volunteered to serve as the Glencarlyn branch representative. Gary offered a motion to approve Eva's appointment as the Glencarlyn branch representative and Kathy seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Julia noted that the Friends had approved the donation of one book to the Reading Connection on behalf of every child who successfully completed the summer reading program. 3,319 children completed the summer reading program and 1,400 books have already been donated to the Reading Connection. An additional 1,919 books still need to be ordered at a cost on average of \$1.82 per book.

Kit noted that next year we should think about ways to close the Summer Reading Program gap between registration and completion. Perhaps the community could be asked for donations and there could be rolling prizes to keep the children interested and working towards finishing their books.

It was agreed that this book donation was a successful way to promote the Friends.

4. Julia mentioned that on Saturday, December 1st at Cherrydale Library there was going to be an Incredible Edible Book Contest. The judges will include Justin Stegall of Bakeshop and David Guas of Bayou Bakery. It is open to children, teens and adults.
5. Julia responded to questions about the failure of the Arlington Public Library computer system by assuring everyone that privacy was not impacted. When the system is restored a process will be in place to address any concerns.

IV. New Business

1. There was a discussion about the Spring Book Sale dates and it was decided that the Spring Book Sale would be held from April 25, 2013 to April 28, 2013.

2. Last month's discussion about the web presence for the Friends was continued. Gary suggested that it might be better to enhance what the Friends currently have on their library hosted website rather than to develop a new website. It was agreed that perhaps it would be better to postpone the creation of a new website, and to instead focus our efforts on other initiatives such as membership. Eva said that we should, however, continue the discussion of what we wanted in a new website. There was some discussion about how online payments could be made if the Friends' website continued to be hosted on the library website. It was also noted that although the library was willing to host the site, there were limited resources with this approach. Kit asked that before our January 14th meeting, all board members review the current Friends' website and bring written suggestions about areas for content or aesthetic improvement to a roundtable discussion.

V. Old Business
There was no old business.

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55. The December 17th meeting was cancelled. The next meeting will be on January 14, 2013 at 7:00 PM.