

Friends of the La Mesa Library
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2018

Attendance: Present: Board Members Bob Duff, Joyce Purcell, John Schmitz, Eileen Schmitz, Bob Thatcher, and Heather Pisani-Kristl (Library ex-officio)

Excused Absence: Deborah Ives and Lyn Dedmon (City ex-officio)

Guests: Jonathan Lange and Justin Walker

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes of January 25, 2018, were approved with minor corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Thatcher

- Current assets, including CDs, stand at \$44,012.25.
- Average daily book sales were \$44.41. Maxwell's House of Books also sold some better books for us for \$163.
- Expenses were for SD County Friends insurance, minor bookstore supplies, and library programs.
- \$265 in annual memberships has come in. Many contained extra donations totaling over \$600.
- The January Financial Statements were accepted.

Membership Report: Joyce Purcell

- Memberships are up to 146, the highest in years.

City of La Mesa Report: No Report

Library Staff: Heather Pisani-Kristl

- Operations and Personnel: Larisa Voronina is the new permanent full-time Tech I.
- Heather is on the County Library's selection committee for the integrated library system. They are looking for a more user-friendly system and one that will be more efficient for staff behind the scenes. It needs to interface with the automatic sorter.
- Career Storytime with Mayor Mark Arapostathis and a detective from the police department was very successful with 93 attendees.
- Staff members Laurie Rosenberg, Hugo Perez, and Alex Areta will present a puppet show this Saturday at 11:00 a.m.
- Tenth Anniversary Celebration: There will be a flier to advertise this event on Saturday, June 9. Joyce will also post to members about six weeks ahead of it. It will also be posted on the website.
- In response to Eileen's question about some libraries getting more frequent coverage of their events, Heather reported that there is only one person at headquarters posting information on Facebook about branch activities. Heather spoke to that person and hopes that more La Mesa events will be posted in the future.

- The Volunteer Breakfast will be held on Friday, April 20. Heather will ask Johnneen to send information to John, Joyce, and Deborah forward to Bookstore volunteers.

President's Report: John Schmitz

- John reported that he and Heather would meet quarterly on the 3rd Thursdays of the month, right before John goes to the quarterly County Friends meeting. This will allow John and Heather to be up to speed on library issues that may come up at the County FOL meetings. At their first meeting on January 30th they discussed:
 - The possibility of setting up a La Mesa historical reference section in the library,
 - Future improvements to the library. The most immediate need is for shades on the Allison Ave windows, and
 - Publicity
- John pointed out that the by-laws require a board election this summer and asked members to advise him of their desire to remain, drop, or shift offices.
- Budget prep season is coming up.
- John and Bob Duff discussed an offer made by a musician to donate 25 CDs for the library collection or to sell as a fund raiser. After discussion, it was decided to decline the offer.

Bookstore Report: No Report

IT Report: Bob Duff and Justin Walker

- They are going to meet with Steve Babbitt who has been hosting our website.
- Justin is gathering information on the Square. To use it, volunteers will need to open Wi-Fi. Square has a strong encryption. It requires a minimum purchase. The fee for using Square is 2.75%. A chip reader would cost about \$29.
- Justin recommends setting up a G-Suite account for FOL so that minutes and statements could be kept on Google Docs. Services are free for non-profits and we are already members of Tech Soup. This would mean that all of the software and emails would have official, not personal, emails. For example, Joyce maintains spreadsheets for membership. She could work from home and have an updated list show up immediately on the tablet in the Bookstore. Bob Thatcher could share financial information. Being web-based, access can be through any browser, Apple or Android.
- The laptop would need to be secured to the desk. The Square could be kept in the drawer with the money.
- John asked Justin to put together a list of what is needed and the costs.
- Justin and Jonathan Lange are also looking into a Facebook account for the Friends.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Eileen Schmitz