

Friends of the La Mesa Library  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
April 19, 2012

**Attendance:**

**Board Members:** Robert Duff, Eileen Schmitz, John Schmitz, and Bob Thatcher.

**Excused:** Deborah Ives

**Guests:** Safa Arabo and Anna Hartman

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President John Schmitz at 4:33 p.m.

**Approval of the Minutes:** The March minutes were approved.

**Library Report:**

- Ruth Ketchum is in Pine Valley today so Safa Arabo presented the Library report.
  - The Library is honoring its volunteers with a breakfast tomorrow morning.
  - La Mesa Library came in #1 in the County again, with circulation of 79,000. This is remarkable given that La Mesa's population is about 55,000. Compare these numbers to 2<sup>nd</sup> place Vista which had a circulation of 77,000 with a much larger population of 99,000.
  - Safa reported that the new sorting machine is working very well. It's like an extra pair of hands, allowing staff to move on to other needs.
  - There is now an app that enables smart phone users to access County Library services.
  - John asked Safa if Ruth gave him any information about the Express programs. Safa said no so further discussion on when and how they will be brought up to date will wait on Ruth.
- Four-year Birthday: Anna Hartman joined the meeting to talk about tentative plans for the celebration on June 9.
  - A clown with balloons and face-painting will come at 11:00.
  - At 12:30, Trails and Rails will perform.
  - There will be a birthday cake and picnics will be encouraged on the City Hall lawn.
  - The Fire Department may participate.
  - Jessie is working on a historical photo-op with the assistance of Suda House, the Grossmont College photography instructor who is also on the La Mesa Historical Society. FOL will pay a stipend for her assistant's time.
  - This event will also serve as the kick-off to the Summer Reading program.
- Anna reported that the library staff is assisting with the Centennial Geo-caching Challenge that is moving along with the guidance of Polly Kanavel. That event will start with the Flag Day Parade and will run until Oktoberfest. Workshops will be held in the library to teach people the process of using GPS systems for a scavenger hunt. A hollowed-out "dummy" book will be placed in the library stacks as one of the city-wide caches. The La Mesa Library will also serve as a drop-off site for completed forms.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- Bob Thatcher distributed the Statement of Financial Position as of March, the March Income and Expenditures Statement, and daily Bookstore sales. He noted that the Bookstore's average daily sales have dropped to \$51 from the previous \$61. His report was moved, seconded, and approved.
- John Schmitz and Bob Thatcher will visit banks and credit unions next week to find out more about its non-profit accounts.

### **President's Report:**

- John Schmitz, Bob Thatcher and Ruth Ketchum will set up a meeting to work on a budget schedule.
- A line will be added to the FOL brochure to indicate the need for a special savings fund for future maintenance needs. More will be printed for both the Bookstore/Library and for a Kiwanis K-day event on Saturday.
- The County Friends will meet tomorrow morning. John will attend.
- The possibility of getting a decal or sign for the Bookstore windows was discussed. Safa will find out what is allowed.

**Bookstore Report:** Deborah was absent so there was no report.

**IT:** Bob Duff reported that he has made minor changes to the FOL web page.

- If John will send a PDF brochure, Bob will add it to the web page.
- His new video in the lobby shows Foothills Art Association Juried Art Show.
- It was suggested that he could get pictures in June of the Library Anniversary/Centennial celebration. Safa reminded us all to have consent forms ready for those photographed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

*Minutes submitted by Eileen Schmitz*