

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

**Attendance:** Board Members: Robert Duff, Liz Hildreth, Eileen Schmitz, John Schmitz, and Bob Thatcher    **Excused Absence:** Deborah Ives    **Guests:** Safa Arabo, Chris Gonzales

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President John Schmitz at 4:35 p.m.

**Approval of the Minutes:** The December minutes were approved with one minor correction.

**President's Report:** John handed out copies of a flier for La Mesa's First Annual Readers and Writers Festival on Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> (see attached). Head Librarian Liz Hildreth and John pointed out highlights of the day. There will be about twenty local authors present to talk and sign books, a children's corner, panel discussions, and special presentations by former San Diego Mayor Dick Murphy, an e-publisher, and a Chivalry and Knighthood expert, among others. The day will raise funds by charging authors \$10 and hopefully increase FOL donations and memberships. Details continue to be worked out. The rest of his report was held until later in this meeting.

**Library Report:**

- Safa Arabo announced that the La Mesa Library still leads the County system with a circulation of 70,000. Readers Express, Gamers and Viewers Express are all popular, as well as many special requests for books. He attributed the high circulation rate to steadier hours compared to many other libraries.
- The new sorter should be in place around March or April.
- Receipts for Express program purchases were turned over to Treasurer Bob Thatcher.
- FOL was given a copy of the Library's calendar of events for January.
- Safa requested more FOL membership forms for the checkout area.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bob Thatcher handed out a Statement of Financial Position as of December 31, 2011, and the December balance, income and expenditures, and daily Bookstore sales (see attached). His report was moved, seconded, and approved.

- John went to California Coast Credit Union for a preliminary discussion of what is required if FOL shifted its account there. The Credit Union would need to see a copy of bylaws and minutes that authorize the signatories. A motion to authorize Friends of the La Mesa Library officers Robert G. Thatcher, John C. Schmitz, and Deborah Ives as signatories until January 2013 was seconded and approved unanimously. We want to check out San Diego County Credit Union as well, as neither would charge monthly fees. California Coast Credit Union does have a specific category for non-profits.
- Note: Once a new bank is selected, we need a debit card for Library use.
- Bob Thatcher was tasked with exploring PayPal as a broker account. Can this be arranged through a bank? Could membership fees be paid through PayPal?

**IT:** Bob Duff would like more input re: the FOL webpages.

- John suggested a tab or link to post minutes in a PDF or read-only format. John could also write a President's page.
- It was moved, seconded and approved to pay a fee of \$10.80 per month from the FOL budget for the website. It was also moved, seconded and approved to repay the President for using his own credit card account to pay the fee in the past.

**President's Report:** John Schmitz

- The final logo design was shown. It was suggested that we mail the logo and bill back to ourselves in a sealed envelope as proof of establishment of copyright.
- It was decided that John and Bookstore Manager Deborah Ives will review the rest of the By-laws.
- John will attend the County Friends meeting tomorrow morning.
- Readers/Writers Day - John gave a half-sheet flier about the Chivalry/Knighthood expert to Anna Hartman. La Mesa-Spring Valley School District will print 200 of these at a cost of \$1250 billed to FOL. La Mesa Focus and La Mesa Patch.com should also be sent publicity items.

**Bookstore Report:** John read notes on behalf of Deborah Ives

- Volunteer Robin is back and Bob C is now trained and ready to work.
- After researching possibilities, Deborah settled on Alibri for online sales. Catherine Siebert may work with her.
- The next Bookstore sale will be in March.
- After discussion of how to compensate Deborah's time online, it was agreed to not a pay stipend but rather a commission based on online sales, how many hours, etc. Bob Duff was asked to investigate what a going rate would be. Once decided, this should be a line item in the FOL budget.
- For future: Find out what paper and/or cloth bags with the FOL logo would cost?

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

*Minutes submitted by Eileen Schmitz*