

Friends of the La Mesa Library  
**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**  
May 22, 2014

**Attendance:** Present: Board Members Bob Duff, John Schmitz, Eileen Schmitz, Bob Thatcher, Heather Pisani-Kristl (Library Ex-officio), and members Joyce Purcell and Wanjiru Warama. Absent: Deborah Ives

**Call to Order:** President John Schmitz called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m.

**Approval of the Minutes:** The April minutes were approved as read.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bob Thatcher

- Total current assets are \$41,652.40 as of the end of April, with most of it in savings pending new budget allocations.
- Bookstore sales continue their slow downward trend. Last month's daily average sales slipped to \$49.55 compared to \$51.55 last year.
- The April *Statement of Financial Position* and the *Income and Expense Statement* were accepted.

**Library Staff:** Heather Pisani-Kristl

- La Mesa Branch Library is in third place in Circulation in the County.
- Vista, San Marcos and La Mesa Branch Libraries are taking part in a challenge to see which one can boost its circulation to a million check-outs by June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- New window coverings are now in place.
- Our library has a vacant Tech II position.

**President's Report:** John Schmitz

- **Authors and Artists event:** He distributed a preliminary financial report. After separating out the Bookstore sales, profits were about \$1000, which will be divided between the Friends and the Arts Alliance. There was discussion over what the percentages should be, based on the extra time and effort put in by the Friends. It was decided that John would negotiate the split at the next meeting of the Arts Alliance. There was more discussion concerning the cost/benefit ratio as it requires so much time and effort. Two vital volunteers don't wish to work on it again.

Various suggestions were made. Bob Duff suggested that attendees be polled on how they heard about it. Safa Arabo said that it would be helpful to have program booklets available in the library ahead of time. Joyce noted that we need to appeal to kids more. We could hand out freebies or have them participate in a contest. We should contact art teachers before setting a date. Authors and artists should be polled on the \$20 fee. A&A could be linked to the kick-off of the Summer Reading program.

- **Friends of the La Mesa Branch Library Budget Preparation:** Heather presented the library's proposed expenditures for next fiscal year for consideration. She suggested funding most categories at levels similar to last year because they provided a good balance of materials for library patrons. Discussion then centered around Matching Funds, the Summer Reading Programs, and Programs/Crafts. It was voted to adjust the proposed amount of Matching Funds to \$7,300 and to round up minor equipment and supplies. Bob Thatcher prepared a worksheet that allowed numbers to be inserted for a proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 and compared those to FY 2013-14 and actuals from FY 2010-11 through FY 2013-14. It was also agreed to eliminate the Express programs with savings to be put in reserve. Reconsideration of the budget can occur during the year. Bob Thatcher, John, and Heather will meet to prepare a final draft budget and then email it to the Board members. It will be presented at the General Membership meeting.
- It was agreed to hold the General Membership meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. in the Bookstore. E-mail and regular mail notices will be sent to registered members of the Friends of the La Mesa Library. Items of business will be the election of Board members, the review and adoption of the fiscal year 2014-2015 budget, and open floor discussion.

**IT Report:** Bob Duff

- A new DVD featuring the Authors and Artists event is running in the lobby.
- He needs a new President's Message for the webpage.

**Bookstore Report:** No report

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

*Minutes submitted by Eileen Schmitz*

*The next meeting will be on June 19th at 4:30 p.m.*