

Friends of the La Mesa Library
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2015

Attendance: Present: Board Members Bob Duff, Käaren McElroy (City Ex-officio), Joyce Purcell, John Schmitz, Eileen Schmitz, Bob Thatcher, and Safa Arabo (representing Heather Pisani-Kristl). **Absent:** Deborah Ives

Call to Order: President John Schmitz called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes of the September 24th General Membership/Board Meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Thatcher

- We have \$35,381.07 currently in the bank account. Most income came from book sales, although they continue to trend down. Bob estimated that Bookstore sales in the coming year may only earn between \$11,000 and \$12,000, although the budget is planned for \$15,000. \$600 went to Programs.
- Bookstore daily sales averaged \$31.01 in September. John noted that the Bookstore had been closed for a few days.
- The Financial Statement was approved.

President's Report: John Schmitz

- John passed out notes and reviewed his attendance at the County Friends' meeting on October 16th
- John asked Joyce to email members about the *La Mesa Conversations* session to be held on November 18th in the Masonic Lodge4, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. The topic will be "The Town Library: A Valuable community Partner?" Jose Aponte, Director of the San Diego County Library will be one of the panelists.
- After discussion, it was decided to hold the next Board meeting on the same day as the Staff and Volunteer holiday potluck. Safa will check with Heather and staff to determine the exact date.

Library Staff: Safa Arabo

- Safa thanked the Library for supporting the popular Star Wars program. Approximately 140 people attended it.
- The Children's circulation continues to grow and is 19% higher than adult.
- The SD County Library is focusing on digital literacy and is training staff to be computer-savvy. We have ten laptops with wi-fi in our library.
- The *La Mesa Connects* event will take place on Saturday, November 14th, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Farmers Market area of the parking lot. Staff will hand out freebies and explain programs. John and Eileen will bring samples from the Bookstore and hand out fliers about *La Mesa Conversations*.
- Margie Todd retired. Jose Robles will move into this Tech III position.

- Safa asked if the Bookstore would like to have a phone for emergency use only. The ringer would be off. The Board would like this very much. Bob Duff will explain later how to conference call to get the front desk's attention.

Membership Report: Joyce Purcell

- Membership now stands at 104.
- She will prepare a letter to go with membership renewal forms in January.

IT Report: Bob Duff

- He continues to look for new slides from Jake Sexton for the lobby DVR so that he can update the video regularly.
- Bob asked for a copy of the *Connections* flier and the *Conversations* flier to put on video slides.
- He also tries to keep the DVR same as the web page.

Bookstore: John Schmitz

- All summer travelers are back on their volunteer shifts.
- We will be scheduling a clean-up day in the Bookstore during the closed weeks over the holidays.
- Joyce will email Bookstore volunteers about for the holiday party in December.

City of La Mesa Report: Käaren McElroy

The Urban Trails, County and Cal-Trans will participate in the November 14th La Mesa Connections event.

The downtown streetscape project is finishing. There will be a celebratory lighting ceremony on December 9th.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Eileen Schmitz