

Friends of the La Mesa Library  
**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**  
April 28, 2016

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

**Call to Order:** President John Schmitz called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

**Approval of the Minutes:** The minutes of the February 2016 meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bob Thatcher

- Income came from bookstore sales, memberships, and contributions. Expenditures were for library programs. Acceptance of the February and March Financial Statements was moved, seconded, and approved.
- The daily average sales in the Bookstore were \$39.64 in February and \$40.25 in March. Both reflect the ongoing slow decline in sales over the past few years.
- Accordingly, there will be less to work with next fiscal year. He estimated that the budget fall between \$12,500 and \$13,000. Bob will set up future needs categories in next year's budget.

**City of La Mesa Report:** Lyn Dedmon

- The La Mesa City Council followed up the February town hall meetings with a workshop in March re: the proposed Civic Center. Discussion ensued, focusing on disappointment that the City doesn't seem to be addressing the empty space that would be left when/if the current city hall is demolished. We would like to see an expanded library there, or at least, a large shared-use community room. An open space would attract vagrants.
- The City Council set up four subcommittees to study McArthur Park, the Civic Center, downtown Village activities, and the downtown Specific Plan.

**Library Staff:** Heather Pisani-Kristl

- The problems with transients continue, with public urination on the drop box and in the flower bed. Heather will meet with a San Diego County Principal Librarian and a representative from the La Mesa Police Department.
- Our percentage ranking in Circulation is slipping. She attributes it to the fact that Poway, Vista, and Encinitas are newer and have room for more Juvenile activities.
- Heather will be out from May 10<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> on medical leave. Christine Plante will be acting branch manager.
- Heather handed out the staff-recommended budget proposals for programs in the next fiscal year. A final budget will be presented at the May meeting.

**Membership Report:** Joyce Purcell

- Membership stands at 116.

**Bookstore:**

- Notices must be approved by Head Librarian Heather Pisani-Kristl, the Bookstore Manager Deborah Ives, or President John Schmitz before posting inside the Bookstore. One board is for the Friends' use; the other board is for library notices.

**President's Report:** John Schmitz

- Director Jose Aponte will be retiring in May. The new Alpine Library will have its official opening on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Budget prep for FY 2016/17 is continuing. It will be presented at the next meeting on May 26<sup>th</sup>.
- We need to set a date for the General Meeting and Elections.

**IT Report:** Bob Duff

- The Friends' webpage has links to the San Diego County Library, the City of La Mesa, the La Mesa-Spring Valley School District, the Registrar of Voters, and Aging and Independent Services.
- Bob will get pictures of the new library staff members and update the webpage with corrected Bookstore hours.
- John suggested that Bob contact Misty Thompson for information about La Mesa Parks & Recreation Foundation Activities.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

*Minutes submitted by Eileen Schmitz*