

Friends of the La Mesa Library  
**General Membership/Board Meeting Minutes**  
July 26, 2018

**Attendance: Present:** Board Members Bob Duff, Joyce Purcell, John Schmitz, Eileen Schmitz, Bob Thatcher, Justin Walker, Heather Pisani-Kristl (Library ex-officio)

**Absent:** Misty Thompson (City ex-officio)

**Guests:** Joe Glidden, Mary E. Harris, Jonathan Lange, Anthony McIvor, Carol Perkins, Charles Perkins, Nickolia "Nicki" Ortega, Cathie Smith, Robin Theilmann, Carol Yaremko, Alex Yeaman, Sandra Yeaman.

The meeting was called to order at 4:37 p.m. President John Schmitz welcomed everyone to the General Meeting. The Library Staff Report was moved to the head of the agenda.

**Library Staff:** Heather Pisani-Kristl

- The new Tech II, Nickolia "Nicki" Ortega, introduced herself and reviewed her wide-ranging work history with the SD County Library system.
- The County is bringing all volunteers and FOL board members online. All must register and provide an email address by August 3<sup>rd</sup>. PINs need be set up by August 14<sup>th</sup>. Heather has hand-outs which explain the process. Anyone without an email address or who might have other questions should see staff members Nicki Ortega and Laurie Rosenberg for assistance. Robin Theilmann put a volunteer list on the Bookstore desk. Volunteers are asked to check off their names, once they have registered with the new system.
- Summer Reading kicked off with a performance by Hullabaloo for children. 100 people were in attendance.
- The recent Smoky Bear program brought in eighty-six participants.
- Heather already has six musicians lined up for the Second Saturdays. Normal attendance runs around forty. The budget for performers has been increased to \$200 per month. The Library pays for some but can only hire off a pre-approved County list. When the Friends pay, other acts can be brought in.

**Approval of the Minutes:** Justin Walker moved approval of the minutes with minor corrections. Joyce Purcell seconded the motion. The minutes of May 25, 2018, were approved with minor corrections.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bob Thatcher

- Bob handed out copies of both May and June Financial Statements.
  - He reviewed the June statement as it is also the end-of-year report. Income for the past year was \$18,350.06 which is \$1,000 above what had been budgeted. Bookstore sales brought in \$13,603.70 and outside sales brought in almost \$900. Memberships doubled and brought in \$1,105. \$2,531 came as monetary donations.
  - Most expenditures went to Matching Funds (\$9,000), Summer Reading (\$1,723.01), and to Programs (\$4,274.77). Total expenditures came to \$16,358.16, just under what had been budgeted.
  - John Schmitz moved to accept the Statements which Justin Walker seconded. The Financial Statements were accepted unanimously.

- John reviewed the budget for 2018/2019 which was approved by the board at the May meeting. Another \$4,000 was added for window coverings.
- Joe Glidden asked about the City and the County responsibilities for maintenance. It was explained that the window treatments were considered an upgrade to the existing situation to improve the experience of library users.

**Board Elections:** There were no new nominations from the floor. Anthony McIvor moved to accept the slate of officers as presented. Carol Yaremko seconded the motion. It carried unanimously. The officers and board members for the next two years are:

<i>President</i> John Schmitz	<i>Vice-President</i> Robin Theilmann
<i>Secretary</i> Jonathan Lange	<i>Treasurer</i> Bob Thatcher
<i>Board Member/IT coordinator</i> Justin Walker	<i>Board Member/Membership</i> Joyce Purcell
<i>Board Member/Videographer</i> Bob Duff	<i>Library Ex-officio</i> Heather Pisani-Kristl
	<i>City Ex-officio</i> Misty Thompson

**Membership Report:** Joyce Purcell

- Membership continued to rise and now stands at 223. Most likely, the increased membership benefit encouraged new members to join.
- Joyce had previously researched neighboring cities' FOL membership fees. Past-president Joe Glidden noted that rates have been the same since at least 1998. Joyce distributed copies of proposed fees for 2019. Individual membership will go from \$5 to \$10. Families will go from \$10 to \$20. Memberships and donations are tax-deductible and can be targeted to certain categories. Jonathan Lange moved to accept the revised fee structure. Bob Thatcher seconded the motion which then passed unanimously.

**President's Report:** John Schmitz

- Window coverings: Because shades are so expensive, he is now looking at costs for heavy tinting. There is light tinting but it is inadequate. Another problem may be the need for scissors-lifts if a tall ladder can't reach high enough.
- The La Mesa Women's Club sponsored the start-up Friends of the La Mesa Library fifty years ago as of next February. Please talk to John or other board members with any celebratory ideas.
- November Elections: Two years ago, John met with La Mesa City Council and mayoral candidates to discuss their views on the library. He plans to do the same with this year's candidates.
- County Friends Quarterly Meeting: John handed out notes from meeting. Of particular interest: 1) some E-books could have an unlimited number of accesses, and 2) there is a new cashier system that will allow card payment of fines.

**Bookstore Report:** Robin Theilmann

- The 50% discount for members is bringing in more customers who also spend more.
- John explained that until now, all volunteers had to go through a background check by the Sheriff's Department. Both Friends groups and the County were losing volunteers. The County is no longer mandating that this be done for Friends, only asking for registration.
- She is continuing to work on cash box procedures.

**IT Report:** Justin Walker

- Our website fell victim to malware. He was able to reboot from archives on the internet.
- G-Suite is running. Justin transferred the platform from Steve Babbitt to us. The board will be able to send emails, Google docs, and share files more easily.
- He is still working on setting up a tablet for credit card use which will be connected to the bank account.

**City of La Mesa Report:** John reported that Misty Thompson of the Community Services Department will take over from Lyn Dedman as the City's ex-officio member on the FOL board.

**Questions and Comments**

1. How often do we meet? On the fourth Thursday of the month. Check the website to check the date.
2. Once volunteers have registered online with the County, please check your name off the list on the Bookstore desk.

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

*Minutes submitted by Eileen Schmitz*