

Friends of the La Mesa Library
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2017

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

Call to Order: President John Schmitz called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes of February 23, 2017, were approved as read. There was no meeting in March for lack of a quorum.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Thatcher

- Bob reviewed both February and March statements. Expenses were primarily for Programs and Community Outreach.
- Bob (treasurer), John (president), and Eileen (secretary) moved \$20,000 from Comerica Bank into San Diego County Credit Union CDs, laddered into 6, 12, 18, and 24 months.
- Bookstore daily sales were good with an average of \$44.95 in February and an average of \$43.85 in March.
- The February and March 2017 Financial Statements were accepted.

Membership Report:

- Joyce had emailed that membership is now 109.

Bookstore Report: Deborah Ives

- Tom Keating is not able to work but will be kept on the Bookstore list.
- The stickers are changing to orange. The older white-tagged books will be cleared out in May.
- A Helix senior who needed to earn community service credit helped John sort and price nine boxes of books.

IT Report: Bob Duff noted that a new President's Message is online.

President's Report: John Schmitz

- John handed out notes from the County Friends April meeting.
 - Officers have been elected for two-year terms.
 - Library Director Migell Acosta addressed the group for the first time with his thoughts for the future of the County Library System.
- In response to Joe Glidden's idea of handing out bags at Von's, John reported that we would need to order 1,000,000 bags to get the cost under \$1 each. The board agreed that would make this unfeasible.
- An oil painting signed by M. Jones was donated to FOL. Preliminary research seems to indicate that it may be more valuable than initially thought. It was agreed that it will be displayed in the lobby for sale to the best offer this summer.
- John and Bob T. will work with Heather to bring a proposed 2017-18 budget to the next meeting.
- The Food Bank would be interested in putting containers inside the library. However, discussion brought up some reservations so this idea was tabled.
- Due to various board schedules, it was agreed to merge the May and June meetings to a single meeting on June 8th.

Library Staff: Heather Pisani-Kristl

- **Personnel:** Second interviews are underway for a Youth Services Librarian II to replace Christine Plante. She will retire on May 11th.
- Several staff members will push book carts in the Flag Day Parade on June 3rd. John and Bob T will march with them.
- It was agreed to wait until fall to start up the popular Second Saturday music programs.
- The Volunteer Breakfast will be tomorrow, April 28th.
- The Summer Reading Program will kick off on June 10th. Only a few details remain to be worked out.

City of La Mesa Report: Lyn Dedmon

- The summer car shows will begin at 5:00 p.m.
- Heather should let City know if the air conditioning system needs to be fixed.
- The bench in front of the outside book box may need to be removed as homeless people camp out there and pester library patrons. The city may try armrests first to discourage sleepers.
- The police station has public bathrooms but people must be buzzed in. The homeless need a port-a-potty available to them at all hours.

Other Discussion:

Joe Glidden:

- Joe attended the ceremony for Imperial Beach's new library. It is about 14,000+ square feet and has a community room with a kitchen. He spoke to Migell Acosta at the Grand Opening about La Mesa's needs.
- Joe expressed frustration that the La Mesa City Council had an event to thank city volunteers but did not invite library volunteers who are also residents. He felt it was inappropriate because the money we earn supports the La Mesa Library which is a service to the city residents.

John:

- He talked with Charles Jarman and Migell Acosta prior to the County Friends meeting about new libraries. They said the IB library was built for about \$560 per square foot. John noted that \$600 square foot number was used in the Kaiser-Marston's La Mesa Civic Center study. Charles and Migell said they will get the numbers together and meet to discuss with John and Joe.
- John was considering bringing up the idea with the City of a library as part of any development of the old police department site. Lynn asked for time to talk with Yvonne about such a mixed use concept.

The meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, June 8, at 4:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Eileen Schmitz