

FRIENDS OF JMRL

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING - APRIL 18, 2017

Attendance - Tony Townsend (Pres.), Anne Hemenway (VP), Nancy Damon, Libby Carpenter, Liza Millet, Tim Tolson, Ted Magilley, Peter McIntosh, Tom Whitlock, Melissa Dickens, Fran Feigert, Sharon Heyka, John Halliday, Zac Tolson, Peter Manno

Absent: Karyn Trumbull, Jane Kulow

1. Tony Townsend called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm. No guest comments
2. January minutes were reviewed. Tim Tolson explained the corrections and changes made, particularly as they related to the discussed about the amended ByLaws. Peter McIntosh moved to approve, and Nancy Damon seconded and all approved the January minutes as amended by Tim Tolson

3. Peter McIntosh presented the Treasurer's report:

Peter reported that the Friends account is “in good shape”. The reported income is stated as of March 31, 2017 and does not include an additional \$18000.00 from the Spring Book sale. The Wells Fargo CD is scheduled to roll over. Once again it was noted that we are over budget on payroll as expected because of the decision to continue Bill’s salary for the first five months of the fiscal year. In July 2017 we will make another payment out of the Crozet fund to the library and then continue to keep the account open because the library does not otherwise have the ability to take gifts.

4. Peter Manno and Zac Tolson presented the Book Sale Director’s Report:

Zack reported that we sold approximately 30,000 books (1,162 boxes) at the Spring 2017 Sale [this is compared to 66,000 books/2,216 boxes at the Fall 2016 Sale] Peter reported that overall the sale went well despite having fewer books going into the sale than in the past. The proceeds were approximately \$91,400.00. We had fewer bulk sales than in the fall and the Educator’s Day saw fewer sales, in part because the inventory was low at that point. Peter asked that the Board encourage book donations from the community. It was suggested that Peter talk to Karen about encouraging the Real Estate Agents Association to encourage home sellers to donate books – particularly those clients who are downsizing. There are other home staging organizations who can also spread the word.

There was a general discussion about book pricing consistency issues and the value of hard back books.

Peter also said that we still have about 200 books in storage which were donated to the Friends when the Oakley's used book store went out of business. Those books will be reviewed, priced and sold at the next book sale.

The board discussed whether to hold the Fall book sale on November 4-12 or November 11-19. Peter McIntosh moved to hold it November 4-12. Sharon seconded. The board approved.

The Volunteer thank you reception will be Thursday at 4:30pm at Gordon Street Library.

Peter McIntosh commemorated both Peter and Zac on the very successful book sale – noting how smoothly it all went. Yay for Peter and Zac!

5. John Halliday presented the JMRL Director's Report –

John followed up on the Board's earlier request to understand the reasons why additional parking was never developed for the Gordon Ave. Library. After showing the architecture drawing, John explained why the City decided not to cut down numerous large hardwood trees and spend \$350,000.00 (considerably more in today's dollars) to enlarge parking by 20 spaces. The Board agreed to not pursue this option.

John informed the Board that Talbot's has offered to promote the Library through the store. The Friends will receive a certain percentage of sales during one Saturday. Sharon agreed to follow up on this fundraiser.

The Louisa Library event honoring Katherine Johnson, of Hidden Figures, took a different direction after Ms. Johnson and her daughter went to LA for the Oscars on the same date as the Library event. The event went on without the honored guest and was successful.

John also reported that the Big Read was a huge success once again.

John and Peter McIntosh also reported on a \$1 million bequest to the Art and Jane Hess Foundation. The Madison couple's generous gift is restricted to be used only for children's books, which will free up the Library funds for other purposes. The couple operate the Soho Center in Madison which is dedicated to teaching educators how to teach reading.

6. Melissa Dickens reported on the JMRL How-To Festival –

The Festival will be held at Central Library on May 6th and will include a small Friends book sale.

7. Peter Manno reported on the Books Behind Bars project.
Red Light Management has paid up on its commitments to the Books Behind Bars program. Peter anticipates that it will send another \$5,000.00 to complete the year commitments. Red Light also informed Peter that another \$10,000.00 gift is expected soon.
8. Term Sheets of Board members was handed out. These terms are now consistent with the Amended Bylaw.
9. Peter McIntosh discussed bonus checks for Peter Manno and Zac, similar to the checks given after the fall sale. Sharon moved to give the checks. Tony seconded. The Board approved the checks.
10. The Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm