

**Friends of the Library**  
**Thursday, January 16, 2020**

**5:30 p.m.**

**Meeting Minutes**

Attendees: Peter Manno, Melissa Dickens, Peter McIntosh, Bill Schrader, Ted Magilley, Grier McCain, Wendy Craig, Liza Millett, Proal Heartwell, Karyn Trumbull, David Plunkett, Nancy Damon, Deborah Willenborg

Call to Order: President Melissa Dickens called the meeting to order at 5:33

Invitation for guest comments: There were no guests

Approval of June, 2019 and September, 2019 minutes: Proal Heartwell noted one typo. Peter Macintosh moved to approve, Bill Schrader seconded and all approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, Peter McIntosh reported a correction down about \$3000 to the previously reported expenses. Due to the proposed income and budget offset by the \$30,000 funding to "Grow Nelson" we will have about \$20,000 less than the funds needed for the budget proposed for next year. This leads us to a situation where the Friends is unlikely to have extra funds in the budget for special projects and we will be looking at the 2.4-2.5M in the foundation for those types of projects. Bill Schrader moved to approve the Treasure's report, Liza Millett seconded, all approved

Nomination and election to fill Board vacancy: Melissa Dickens nominated Pat Dogil to fill the Board vacancy. Melissa Dickens made a motion to approve, Ted seconded and all approved

Book Sale Director's Report: Peter Manno reported that we had a successful book sale with proceeds of about \$117,000 which is slightly down from previous years. The rare books sales were down about 5600 from the previous year. Looking ahead to the spring sale, it will be April 4-12 with bag day on the 13th. The fall dates will be Nov 7-Nov 15.

Books Behind Bars Report: Peter McIntosh reported that a letter was sent to Redlight and John Grisham to report the activities and budget for this program. This program continues to grow which also causes our costs to increase. Therefore, Peter is asking for an increase in the donations from these supporters from \$22,000 to \$24,000.

Library Director's Report: Library Director, David Plunkett brought in copies for the Board of the book featured for Same Page this year which is Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson. This program is supported by the Friends. David also thanked the Friends for all of the small things that the Friends gives and supports but noted that this is a really big and important event that we should be very proud of.

David reported on the Grow Nelson project. About half way through the fundraising year they have raised \$120,000 of the \$150,000 goal which would open up the funding from the Perry Grant. [grownelsonlibrary.org](http://grownelsonlibrary.org) Donate now!

Bill Schrader asked about any progress on a southside library, but David reported that there has not been much movement or discussion about that for about a year.

David also reported that there is a budget amendment on the floor of the Senate and House of Delegates in Richmond to increase the State library contributions from 1/2 to full budget.

## Old Business

### Space considerations for Friends and book sale

Melissa reported that Bill Schrader, Peter Macintosh, Peter Manno and Zach met with Dumbarton and visited the old Northside Library space which is not in very good condition including an HVAC system that is not fully functioning. Our proposal was not formally accepted or rejected. Bill report that Dumbarton has agreed to repair the HVAC system if we present an offer.

There was discussion over the positives and negatives of a new location and options for the future of the organization.

Wendy Craig moved that we create an exploratory committee to investigate the possibility of moving the Friends Organization and Sale. Proal Heartwell seconded and all approved. Many ideas were discussed including increasing the book sale to daily, moving just the storage to a donated space, temporary or short term leases for sale only space, gathering ideas and experiences from other Friends and Libraries, and a priority on getting the thoughts and feedback from the volunteers, etc.

### Strategic Plan adjustment

Nancy Damon moved that we table this discussion until the next meeting. Liza Millett seconded and all approved

### Outreach Committee

Ted Magilley asked for some volunteers to join the outreach committee. Wendy Craig and Proal Heartwell volunteered, and they plan to ask Pat Dogil. Ted has begun doing some research and hopes to have more to report before the next meeting.

Karyn Trumbull shared the idea to reach out to “I Love Cville” as a possible way to increase some exposure for the work the Friends is involved with

## New Business

Volunteer reception: Melissa Dickens proposed that the reception be held on 4/16. Peter Manno and Peter McIntosh agreed to help make the arrangements for this event.

Announcements

Book Sale sign-up for Members' Night April 3rd

Book Festival speaker – March 18<sup>th</sup> at PVCC

Next meeting – April 16 at 5:30 at Gordon Avenue Library

Ted Magilley moved to adjourn, Nancy Damon seconded and all agreed