

Friends of the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library Minutes
Thursday, January 18, 2024
5:30 pm

Attendance: Proal Heartwell, David Plunkett, Peter Manno, Bill Schrader, Wendy Craig, Ted Magilley, Grier McCain, Jack Hanrahan, Pat Dogil, Jane Kulow, and Austin Conner.

Call to Order: Proal Heartwell called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the September meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Ted reported that the transition is ongoing as signatures and permissions from accounts and investments must be updated. Peter is still helping out, and he will follow up with Red Light to secure the donation for BBB.

Ted summarized the solidity of accounts and the reconciliation of income and expenses with the addition of the spring book sale. The surplus of \$100,000 will be invested in a CD after the sale.

Book Sale Director's Report: Peter Manno:

Peter presented the VLA Friends award accepted at the recent conference!!!

Peter recapped the success of the sale noting the increased numbers on membership night.

Considerations for the April sale were discussed including AC issues and suggestions for more detailed signage. Book donations are exceeding expectations. It was also noted that the spring sale will not be during school spring break and pros and cons were discussed.

Peter reported that online book sales were down, and Bill emphasized a need for a full-time position. Proal will send out members' night reminder.

JMRL Director's Report: David Plunkett

David brought copies of the new Community Read, *Florence Adler Swims Forever*, and reminded members that Same Page Community Read is generously funded by the Friends of JMRL, supported by the Art and Jane Hess Fund of the Library Endowment and Virginia Festival of the Book. An author signing will take place during VA Festival of the Book in March.

David announced the acquisition of the Nelson branch book kiosk in Nellysford which will enable patrons to browse collections, return books, and place holds more conveniently.

Central Library Renovation Working Group (CLRWG) summary:

Jane spoke to the Albemarle Board of Supervisors and individually with City Councilor and Board members who then toured the building. Positive report that the County and City are discussing the renovation.

Bill asked about the initial renovation plans and costs. David reported the 2015 numbers were approximately \$8 M and the 2021 review \$16-17 M. Charlottesville and Albemarle would contribute 50/50.

Proal emphasized the role and responsibility of the Friends in the fundraising for the renovations.

New Business:

-The Album Initiative: Jack Hanrahan

Jack presented a detailed assessment and proposal for maximizing revenue on the sale of albums that included strategies, processes, and revenue projections. He has already begun appraising and processing the current inventory. Detailed discussion followed focusing on volunteers necessary and the potential for generating more sales. Suggestions included reaching out to vinyl/music enthusiasts for support and volunteers such as WTJU's previous partner. After much discussion, the Board decided that Jack proceed to pilot a sale of the rarer items in the collection. The Board also decided to raise the price of non-valuable albums to \$3 (\$5 double album) for the next sale.

-Nominating Committee

Proal asked for volunteers to serve on the nominating committee. Contact him if interested. Will be addressed at next meeting.

-Winter Newsletter reminder from Proal.

Old Business:

Update on Building Book Sale Supply – tabled for future meeting.

Announcements:

Spring Book Sale Members' Night (April 5)

Next Board Meeting (April 18, 2024)

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.