FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEETING MINUTES

Present: Ted Magilley, David Plunkett, Peter Manno, Peter McIntosh, Tony Townsend, Melissa Dickens, Libby Carpenter, Tim Tolson, Sharon Heyka, Nancy Damon, Fran Feigert, Karyn Trumbull, Anne Hemmenway, Liza Millett
Absent: Tom Whitlock, Zac Tolson

5:30 MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

MEETING MINUTES:

Tim Tolson moved to approve the minutes from April. Melissa Dickens seconded and all approved.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Treasurer Peter McIntosh reported that we had some money in a money market account earning very little money which was transferred into a CD. He is also evaluating any additional places we have money deposited that are not earning good interest. Those funds will be invested in CDs as is appropriate in order to maximize the interest earned.

The payroll budget indicated a 3% increase which is in line with what JMRL is paying their employees. The payroll numbers also include continuing to pay Bill through the end of the year.

Also, worker’s comp is high due to the time we had three full time employees.

We have increased the budget for Books behind Bars as it was requiring more time and needed an increase in budget.

We have reduced the budget for programming but have been assured by Director Plunkett that the reduction will not effect the public as they are programs that the funds are no longer needed for. There was a discussion about providing or not providing bottled water for volunteers. It was decided that we should vote about it. It was nearly unanimous that we not provide the bottled water as it is not necessary and is expensive. This item will be removed from the budget.

The budget for advertising at the Festival of the Book was discussed and generally agreed that it was worth continuing.

Sharon Heyka moved to approve the budget, Nancy Damon seconded all approved.

CREATION OF 501c(3) FOR FUNDING SPECIAL PROJECTS:

David Plunkett requested that The Friends works together with JMRL to establish a 501c(3) in order to fund certain projects. Peter McIntosh shared options that might be available including working collaboratively with Charlottesville Area Community Foundation. This would seem to be the simplest option. The Friends Endowment has received an additional donation of about $1M and the total amount in the endowment is about $2.4M.

Libby Carpenter made a motion to approve that Peter Macintosh move forward with working with the CACF. Fran Feigert seconded and all approved.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Director David Plunkett shared the new edition of Beyond the Books and some of the details of the projects going on. David also thanked Peter McIntosh for his service on the JMRL Board which has been generous and extensive.
David discussed the upcoming anniversary of the August 12 events of last year. It will fall on a Sunday and the library will be closed anyway, but discussions and plans are underway.

BOOK SALE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Director, Peter Manno shared that things are going well and having the help from Bill is having a big impact and he is doing a lot of work. It was also shared that the kick off events and Friday’s After Five events have been very successful. Also, we are transitioning over to a digital format for announcements. We will be checking IDs at Friday’s After Five again in August.

Melissa Dickens reported as follow up on the Libraries in Laundromats that three of these locations have been set up and are being very well received. Some books were donated by the Friends from books that have not sold.

CENTRAL LIBRARY RENOVATION INITIATIVE:

President, Tony Townsend shared that there is not much to report at this time. The group is working on pushing towards the renovation of Central. The decision about what will be happening with the Courthouses downtown needs to occur prior to any real progress can be made.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEW BOARD MEMBERS:

Ted and Nancy met to discuss some options for new board members.

Ted brought Grier McCain forward as a potential Board Member. Nancy brought forward Stephanie Commander. Tony Townsend confirmed that John Halliday has also agreed to serve on the Board. Peter McIntosh moved that Grier McCain, Stephanie Commander, and John Halliday be nominated to the Board.

Peter suggested that Anne Hemmenway be nominated as President, Tony Townsend be nominated as Vice President.

Melissa Dickens, Ted Magilley and Liza Millett were unanimously nominated for re-election to the board.

NEW BUSINESS:

Anne Hemmenway discussed the renaming of Lee Park and the upcoming vote. She likes the potential name of "Library Park" and is asking that any others in favor of that name write to city council.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Meeting was adjourned at 6:40pm.