

Friends of DeKalb Public Library Minutes February 6, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT

Nancy Allen, Deborah Booth, Kathleen Clark, Jill Cutts, Donna Gable, Alice Hall, Carla Ortegell, Rich Rice, Dorothy Thorsen, Janine Thurmaier, and Theresa Winterbauer. Also in attendance were Veronica Garcia-Martinez, board representative, DeKalb Public Library and Emily Faulkner, Director. The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. The January minutes were approved.

DIRECTOR'S INTRODUCTION AND REPORT

Rich introduced new director Emily Faulkner and asked her to talk about herself and her vision for the library.

- She said she grew up and went to high school in DeKalb and has worked at the Chicago Public Library for the past nine+ years. Some of her responsibilities were organizing programming in branches, including major author events, as well as performers, artists, field trips, and workshops,
- Emily said her vision for the library is to do a lot more community engagement. She hopes to expand on partnerships that already exist. "I want to go where we're already headed." She said she was aware of what the Friends have been doing and funding.
- Rich mentioned the fall survey of the Friends. Deb described and connected results to what Emily had said. The survey demonstrated that there is interest among the Friends for more social activities, especially authors' talks and book-related field trips. This would help get more people involved and engaged in the group.
- Nancy said that it's been 4-5 years since the last authors' talks. She said she thought the library funded the talks, and the Friends contributed. Some were collaborations with NIU.
- Rich mentioned that the library has been struggling to figure out what to do with the volunteers. He wondered if this is something the group should take on. Historically, he added, there has not been much interest in our doing that.
- Rich said that renewal membership forms were sent out to current members in December and are now coming in. Deb will respond with a letter and membership card to those who sent forms and money. Rich also explained how applications for funding are submitted by library employees. Director signs off on the applications.
- Rich mentioned that In the past, Director Dee Coover attended and made a report at the monthly Friends' meetings. Occasionally, other library staff filled in for her when she couldn't attend.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- We received a total of \$415.00 in January; this included memberships as well as \$345.48 in book sales, including flash sales, basement shelves, etc.
- Disbursed in January: \$267.03 for plants at Christmas, \$28.20 for supplies, and \$25.00 for printing. Current balance is \$16,563.03.

OLD BUSINESS

- Jill thanked Rich for baking and bringing cookies to celebrate her recent retirement as president.
- Rich discussed the Friends' page on the library website. He had proposed two new drop down menus for donations and the book sale. He explained these new menus have been approved and said that when he asked how much it would cost for Morningstar to make these changes, he was told they would do it pro bono.
- Rich said the website is still missing some minutes from 2016 that he sent Josh in IT. Veronica said she checks on the website updates and will help if she can.

NEW BUSINESS

- There was a letter from member Sue Doubler, who was absent from the meeting. She provided details about the program ads in the Kiwanis talent show program in April; the timing should work out well for the book sale. The cost is \$50 for a 1/8 page business card ad and they will need this by March 10. Rich said we can discuss the details at the next meeting.

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- Theresa presented two funding requests:
 1. \$295.00 for a magic show during spring break. Magic Matt (Matt Scherer) is the magician; he's performed at the library twice before.
 2. \$180.00 for items compatible with Legos. (She mentioned that she has found a source for inexpensive items that are compatible with Legos on Amazon.). The items include 24 bases, 1,000 extra bricks, wheels, doors, windows, roofs, people and heroes.
- Both requests were approved. Jill moved and Dorothy and Carla seconded the funding for the Lego request and Jill moved and Alice seconded the funding for the magician.
- Alice mentioned the need for two additional baby dolls for the baby program. Veronica said she would provide these.
- Jill moved and Alice seconded that the meeting adjourn at 5:45 p.m.
- The next meeting is March 6 at 5 p.m. In the Zimmerman Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Booth
Secretary