

**FRIENDS OF THE MODESTO LIBRARY  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**December 3, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Modesto Library.

**ATTENDANCE**

Present: Board Members Stella Beratlis, Jonaca Driscoll, Ellen Dambrosio and Anne Britton as well as the manager for the Modesto library, Charles Teval.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the September 3, 2008 meeting were approved as corrected.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Jonaca Driscoll reported the following assets as of November 30, 2008:

Checking	\$3,011.24
Savings	\$1,282.82
Peti Taylor Checking	\$ 200.00
Peti Taylor CD [maturity date of Dec. 2, 2008]	\$2,090.01

**Expenditures** since the last meeting include:

Postmaster [P.O Box renewal]	\$42.00
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**Income** since the last meeting include:

Memberships	\$ 300.00
Donations	\$ 105.00
Scholastic Book Sale	\$1,076.06
Book Sales	<u>\$ 52.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,533 .06</b>

**LIBRARIAN'S REPORT**

Charles Teval informed the Board that **Ryan's Reading Tree** will begin installation in the Children's Room on December 9, 2008 with completion targeted soon thereafter. A formal dedication will be held on December 30, 2008 at 3:30 in the Children's Room. The public is invited.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Stella will attend to represent us.

Charles reported that Stella will be finishing up her **internship** soon. That raised the question of FOML continuing to use the office cubicle she presently occupies, at least until the space is needed for future staff, or until the FOML opens space for a gift store.

Charles also noted that two upcoming **Children's programs** are sponsored by FOML. Saturday, December 20 at 12 & 1:30 p.m. is puppeteer and ventriloquist Tony Borders presenting two wintery tales of wonder: King Midas & Frosty the Snowman. Saturday, January 3 at 12 & 1:30 p.m. has Marcus Raymond's juggles & jokes with portions of the collection highlighted at this program. The Children's Department **needs volunteer ticket takers**, etc. for each program.

**ACTION TAKEN:** To find volunteers, Ellen will email members who have indicated they would like to help. Times needed at each of those dates is from 11am – 3pm.

Vanessa Czopek was informed that the County Counsel sees no problem with a **FOML-run store** at the Modesto Library. Approval from the County Board of Supervisors is now all that is needed.

Vanessa also announced plans for a **collaborative meeting of Friends'** organizations set for a date in mid-March. More information is forthcoming.

Anne asked if FOML would like to send an email about the "**Books for Giving**" list produced by the CX staff. Consensus was to do it.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Anne will get an electronic version or the web link address to Ellen for distribution to the membership.

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Ellen Dambrosio presented a comprehensive evaluation of current membership numbers. As of November 28, 2008 she collected the following statistics:

- From the October newsletter and the Novel Open House event we received 7 renewals and 4 new memberships.
- 19 memberships expired between February and September 2008
- 9 memberships expired in October 2008 (4 singles, 4 family, 1 business)
- Current memberships include: 14 singles; 32 family; 1 business

She raised a number of questions and presented them along with these comments:

- I think the bylaws say we will remove members from the list when they are 6 months overdue. Shall we still do that or continue sending them newsletters for perhaps a year since it costs us less now that we email so many? Maybe drop these people after the January newsletter if we don't receive a renewal by February?
- I can send an email reminder to the 28 expired members after the Dec. 3 meeting (in case Jonaca has new membership forms for me that night). Do we want to pay to send a printed letter to the nine without email addresses?

**ACTION TAKEN:** Consensus was reached to cease mailing the newsletter to anyone whose membership has expired more than six months. Reminders will be sent noting that this will happen.

### **BOOK SALE REPORT**

Anne Britton distributed a report on the Scholastic *Book Fair Safari*, held November 13-15, 2008 in the auditorium of the Modesto Library. The full report is available from Anne.

Profit from Scholastic was \$1076.06, and at least one new membership was turned in during the sale. In addition a voucher for \$90 worth of product from the Scholastic Instructional Resource Catalog was earned. Although the slower economy had an effect, anonymous community members donated over \$300 worth of books to local youth and family serving agencies through the *Wish List* program. Once again Dittos acted as our print heroes, providing publicity materials at no cost. A total of 23 volunteers staffed the three-day sale, which has become an annual fundraising event.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**SCRAPBOOK:** The scrapbook Marietta Bradford put together was unveiled at the October 22<sup>nd</sup> event and looked great! It was also displayed at the Book Fair Safari in November. Materials cost slightly more than expected.

**ACTION TAKEN:** On a motion by Stella, seconded by Ellen, the Board approved reimbursing up to \$30 to Marietta for the cost overage.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**OPEN HOUSE:** The turnout for the “**Novel Book Exchange**” and author visit by Cornelia Read held October 22<sup>nd</sup> was low. Unfortunately, Ms. Read was ill and could not attend. However, \$165 of in-kind donations from Dittos, Starbucks and Peggy Gardner’s catering made it an enjoyable evening for those who did attend. Three of Ms. Read’s books were sold that evening. The rest were returned to the vendor with only a small shipping cost, thanks to Ellen Dambrosio’s efforts.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Stella asked for volunteers to be appointed to the committee she will chair. The committee will present a slate of candidates at the March General Membership meeting.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Jonaca, Ellen and Anne volunteered to serve. Stella will use email to set up a meeting to be held in January to try to identify possible candidates. An additional person with broad community connections will also be sought to attend that meeting.

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** Possible speakers for the March General Membership Meeting scheduled for **March 4, 2009 at 6:30pm** were discussed. Concern was expressed about the need to make the decision early, so that publicity can be included in the next newsletter.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Anne will contact Joan Bowen Cardoza to see if she is available and willing to speak about authoring her cookbooks.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE/STUDENT CATEGORY: In a discussion of ways to increase membership, Anne proposed offering copies of the best selling novels *Twilight* and *Breaking Dawn* as incentives for the new "Student" membership category. A lively discussion was held debating pros and cons of various ways to do this. Consensus was reached to promote in December and January for a **drawing** to be held after the end of January.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Anne will coordinate with library staff to promote the drawing opportunity. There will be two winners, one for each book, drawn from memberships received of any type received by the end of January.

NEWSLETTER: Stella has agreed to again edit the next issue of the newsletter.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Deadline for submission to Stella is January 11, 2009. Target publication date will be January 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **OTHER ITEMS**

HANDBORN RAFFLE: Stella reported that the raffle proceeds from the Handborn craft festival held Saturday November 29<sup>th</sup> in downtown Modesto generated about \$500 for FOML. We should be receiving the donation check from Handborn in the near future. The group donates 100% of the raffle money to a different charity every year. This was our lucky year!

#### **AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:**

- Approval of minutes of December 3, 2008 meeting
- Treasurer's Report
- Membership Report
- Librarian's Report
- Gift Store status
- Election of Officers/Board for 2009/2010
- Speaker

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20 p.m. The next Board of Directors meeting will be on **March 4, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the Library Auditorium.**

Dated: March 4, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Britton, Secretary