

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

August 7, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Modesto Library.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Stella Beratlis, Joan Patterson, Jonaca Driscoll, Anne Britton, and membership committee chairman Ellen Dambrosio; the manager for the Modesto library, Charles Teval, and County Librarian Vanessa Czopek; and FOL members Luella Davis and Barbara Quinn.

MINUTES

The minutes of the June 4, 2008 meeting were approved as submitted and will be sent to the Library's webmaster for inclusion on their website.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jonaca Driscoll reported that the newsletter generated some membership renewals. A fuller report will be made at the regular September meeting.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

All Kid's Craft Fair will be held on the Library outdoor portico on October 11, 2008. Friends member Barbara Quinn is assisting the Children's department with the program.

Charles Teval distributed information about the upcoming *Ryan's Relay Walkathon* on Saturday, August 16, 2008 at Johansen High School. The fundraiser is part of the effort to replace the rather dull central pillar in the Children's Room with an artificial tree. More information can be found at www.ryanstree.com.

Charles reported that the Friends' meeting, such as the upcoming September one, will be included in the Library system's newsletter/calendar of event.

Vanessa Czopek's report that space may be available for a Friends gift store in the library created a great deal of excitement among the board members. Anne mentioned that the Friends already own a cash register. Vanessa felt that shelves may be available. A number of ideas for sale items were discussed including paper, pens, bags, clothing, jewelry, and used and new books.

ACTION TAKEN: **Ellen** will check membership forms for members who indicated they might be interested in helping in this kind of venture. Luella, Barbara, and Jonaca all expressed interest in working on an initial

committee to examine this possibility. Joan said she would like to help at the gift store once it is up and running.

OLD BUSINESS

FALL SOCIAL EVENT: Discussion centered on holding an event during National Friends of Libraries Week, October 19-25. The event would offer a chance to thank the recent book sale volunteers and to give members an opportunity to socialize. Ideas included author talks; food, ice cream floats, pastries, coffee; round-robin table displays of FOML history, activities, help wanted opportunities, etc.; venues outside the library such as local eateries or private homes; and Barbara Quinn suggested a "Book Exchange" with attendees bringing books from their personal libraries for trading. Items that may be needed include a microphone, tables and chairs [the library will provide them]; napkins, plates, cups, tableware, and tablecloths; coffee, drinks, and food.

ACTION TAKEN: Vanessa checked and booked the Auditorium for Wednesday, October 22 from 5-9 p.m., although the reception would be a shorter time period within that time block. A tentative title for the event is *A "NOVEL" Open House* and will include the book exchange. Publicity will be included in the newsletter and possibly in a postcard invitation to the sale volunteers. **Ellen** will check membership forms for possible helpers in staging the event. **Stella** will check on author availability, etc. and will be the collector of information and ideas from **all of us**. Decisions on the event will be finalized at the September meeting.

PR MATERIALS: A number of ideas to help publicize the Friends and its activities were put forward. These included permanent name tags for the Board of Directors, branded table skirt and/or banner with the organization's name, a new outdoor book sale banner, and a display stand for exhibits that can be used at meetings and events.

ACTION TAKEN: Paper name tags will be used at all future Friends programs. **Joan** will donate the cost of the permanent name tags for officers. **Stella** will gather more information on pricing and availability of branded items and bring that information to the September meeting.

PAYPAL: Stella reported that the Friends' Paypal account is now established.

FOML WEB PRESENCE: The need for a domain name was generally agreed upon. Stella reported there are a variety of name combinations possible, though some are already taken by other organizations. She stated that the expense is very small, perhaps \$10.00 annually.

ACTION TAKEN: The board approved Stella proceeding to secure an appropriate domain name. **Board members** will vote electronically on the preferred domain name after Stella submits those currently available.

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE CHAIRS: Current committee chairs are Ellen Dambrosio – Membership and Anne Britton – Book Sale. Other areas of activity in need of a chair include Newsletter, Nominating, Social, and future Gift Store.

ACTION TAKEN: Any suggestions for committee chairmen will be brought to the September meeting, including those **Ellen** finds who listed interest on their membership/renewal forms.

NEW BUSINESS

NEWSLETTER: The newsletter is currently edited by Stella, who has done a fine job making the newsletter very attractive. Current members with known email addresses received their copies only electronically, to save postage costs. Consensus was to continue this with the next edition.

ACTION TAKEN: The next edition will be issued by October 1, 2008. Deadline for submission to Stella is September 15th. Topics will include upcoming events such as the All Kids Craft Fair, the November Scholastic Book Fair, and the new Wiggle Worms storytime format. The October *Novel Open House* will be highlighted.

FUNDRAISING OFFER: Stella reported as an information-only item that a heavy metal group called Zombie Death Stench plans to hold a benefit for the Friends. Josh Jones, a member of the group notified Stella.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- Social Event finalization
- committee chairs [including making Ellen an official director?]
- clarification of membership year and consideration of increase in dues
- discussion of thank you letters for tax deductible contributions
- approval of expenditures for PR materials
- Gift Store.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:10 p.m. The next Board of Directors meeting will be on **September 3, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Library Conference Room.

Dated: 28 August 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Britton, Secretary