

Meeting Minutes, Friends of the Durham Library Board
1 October 2008, 7:00 p.m.
Board Room, Main Library

Attending Board Members: Bobbie Walters-Brown, presiding; Jeff Anton; Mary Auen; Jane Goodridge; Roz Grace; Vicki Hertz; Gerry Larson; Wendell Musser; Marge Nordstrom; Martha Scotford; Aviva Starr; Andre Vann; Anne Wilder; Angela Zoltners.

Also attending: Skip Auld, Library Director; Anastasia Bush, Library Grant Writer; Alice Sharpe, Library Development Officer

Call to Order

Bobbie Walters-Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

The board approved the minutes of the September 2008 annual meeting.

Treasurer's Report (Mary)

Mary reported the following for 2008-2009 year-to-date:

Year-to-date income:	\$19,334.95
Year-to-date expenses:	\$18,759.24

Mary also reported the following for September 2008:

Monthly income:	\$6,267.14
Monthly expenses:	\$6,492.40

The board approved the treasurer's report.

Standing Committee Reports

Book Sale (Jane)

Planning is continuing for the October sale at the Main library. Aviva has only a few volunteer slots yet to fill.

Wrap-a-Rama (Stasi)

Stasi believes we can break even with the Wrap-a-Rama. Hallmark has agreed to donate wrapping paper, and Stasi will order stickers that are embossed with the Friends' name. Stasi presented a plan to have volunteers working in five shifts: 9-10 am (for setup), 10 am-12 pm, 12-2 pm, 2-4 pm, and 4-5 pm (for cleanup). It was agreed that this plan would require too many volunteers and the shift schedule was revised to 9 am-12pm, 12-2 pm, and 2-5pm. Volunteers for the third shift will probably not have to work until 5 pm, as clean-up is likely to be quick.

Stasi is still working out the logistics for having the Wrap-a-Rama and the permanent booksales at the Main library and at Stanford L. Warren.

Team captains will be recruited for each Wrap-a-Rama location.

The Scrap Exchange has volunteered to donate fabric for gift wrapping. Marge and Jeff will test the feasibility of using fabric to wrap books and will report back. Martha reported that If It's Paper will give us a 25% discount on ribbon, so we should be able to get plenty of ribbon for \$20 to \$30.

It was agreed to add \$100 to the proposed Wrap-a-Rama budget for supplies such as scissors, tape, etc. Total budget for the Wrap-a-Rama is \$1200.

Membership (Vicki)

Vicki reported the following membership numbers for September 30:

Adult	176
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Senior	68
Life	55
Patron	1
Sustaining	14
Youth	5
Family	110
Friend Donor	11
Foundation Donor	858
Total	1298

Nominating (Ann)

Nothing to report.

Liaison Reports

Liaison to the Durham Library Foundation (Vicki)

The Foundation board met on September 15. The Gier house has been sold, netting the Foundation about \$200,000 in unrestricted funds. To date, this is the largest donation from an individual and the 3rd largest donation overall (after Glaxo and the NEH). Greater communication with the Friends is needed. Each organization needs to understand the library projects that the other organization is supporting. Skip will try to facilitate a meeting between himself, Bobbie, Willis Wichard, and the president of the Board of Trustees.

Liaison to the Durham Library Board of Trustees (Wendell)

Ken Berger has resigned as president of the Board of Trustees. A new president will be named soon. Al Roberts is likely to be named to this position.

Old Business

Volunteers are needed to help out Aviva, Vicki, and Anne, who are each dealing with multiple or large responsibilities.

- Jeff Anton volunteered to assume the Liaison to the Library Foundation position.
- Martha and Gerry will help Anne with publicity.
- We still need a volunteer to take over Aviva's job of recruiting book sale volunteers.

New Business

Signature Projects

According to the comments that Bobbie received, the four most popular proposed signature projects are:

1. Panel display TV
2. Buy a van for library programs
3. Launch a 4-yr scholarship program for staff pursuing a degree
4. Provide baby book and library card information for new babies in Durham County

Skip was asked to comment on each of these options:

1. The panel displays would be a really good thing for the library, and he intends to do this one way or another.
2. The van would be used for the early literacy program. Currently, the 1 staff member uses her own car. He would like to be able to get to the 50-60 low-performing child care homes in Durham, but a van is not absolutely needed. It may be possible to get an auto dealer to donate part of the cost in return for having the dealer's logo on the van.
3. The scholarships are a great idea, but they shouldn't necessarily be limited to AA degrees. Any enhancement to education enhances the community.
4. The library is looking for ways to reach the Hispanic community, and giving out books via the Giving Closet would be a good way to accomplish this goal. Most people who go to the Giving Closet probably don't have many books in their homes.

The scholarship proposal generated some conversation. This program would cost \$10,000 in each of four years. We would need to commit to the entire four-year program. Scholarships could be used for study related to library science or early childhood education. Scholarship recipients would work at the library while attending classes. The library cannot guarantee that scholarship recipients would have new jobs or increased pay when they graduate. How would we decide who gets the scholarships? Where would the money be paid – to the students, or to the schools?

Skip will come to the November meeting with more information regarding each of these options. Joyce McNeill, Assistant Director for Administrative Services, will be asked to come to the next meeting so she can describe her vision for the scholarship program.

Library News

We need to be thinking about what we are going to do when the Main library closes. A Sept 25 presentation outlined a general plan for the project.

- The project will be a renovation, and not an expansion.
- The library will be about 60,000-70,000 square feet.
- A renovated building can accommodate the program that Skip is trying to develop for Main.
- The Main library renovation has been delinked from the History Museum project.
- No design plans have been developed yet.
- The size of the collection at the Main library will shrink considerably. The turnover rate at the Main library is about 2, which is very low. Library turnover rates are typically 5-10. 14,000 items have never been checked out, while 60,000 items haven't gone out in the past two years.
- This budget will not allow for moving staff into offsite offices.

Groundbreaking for the South regional library will likely take place in December.

Catherine Mau, the first library deputy director has recently come onboard.

Adjournment

Because the library will be closed on November 5 due to library staff day, the next meeting will be held on November 12.

Bobbie adjourned the meeting at 8:55.

Submitted by

Vicki Hertz