

Meeting Minutes, Friends of the Durham Library Board
4 February 2009, 7:30 p.m.
Board Room, Main Library

Attending Board Members: Bobbie Walters-Brown, presiding; Mary Auen; Vicki Hertz; Gerry Larson; Wendell Musser; Marge Nordstrom; Martha Scotford; Aviva Starr; Andre Vann; Ann Wilder.

Also attending: Skip Auld, Library Director; Anastasia Bush, Library Grant Writer; Joyce McNeill, Library Assistant Director of Administrative Services

Call to Order

Bobbie Walters-Brown called the board meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

The board approved the minutes of the January 2009 meeting with one correction: Wendell Musser was a member of the committee that developed the scholarship documents that were approved in January.

Library News (Skip)

1. Durham County has cut 10% from the library's approved budget for next year (FY 2009-2010). This is on top of the 10% that has already been cut from this year's budget (cuts this year include a recent countywide 3% across-the-board cut, a budget reduction that resulted because the library has historically underspent its budget, and a cut resulting from a reduction in anticipated revenues). Skip hopes to be able to restore the cuts that have been made to next year's collection budget.

While County Manager Mike Ruffin does not want layoffs, if they become necessary they will probably be done as a county-wide policy.

The county has an AAA credit rating, which should expand the types of credit the county can get, even though the credit market is very tight right now.

Recent news reports have mistakenly stated that Governor Bev Perdue has called for a cut of \$16.5 million in state support for libraries – Gov. Perdue has never said this. This is the total amount of state support for libraries.

Skip has no plans to close library branches. Library usage is much increased, even with the closure of the Southwest branch.

2. Skip introduced Joyce McNeill, Assistant Director of Administrative Services, who thanked the Friends Board for approving the scholarship program. An email announcement has been sent to library staff, applications are ready to distribute, and Joyce expects to soon be overwhelmed with completed applications.

Treasurer's Report (Mary)

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

Year-to-date income:	\$60,447.86
Year-to-date expenses:	\$60,218.60

Mary also reported the following for January 2009:

Monthly income:	\$2907.49
Monthly expenses:	\$4463.49

Mary noted that most of the expenses for the month were the cost of printing *Season's Readings*. The Friends checking account has been converted from a personal account to a business account. This change will allow us to accept credit cards at the book sales, if we choose to do so.

The consensus of the Board was that it would be very expensive to accept credit cards and there doesn't seem to be much demand for it.

The board approved the treasurer's report.

Standing Committee Reports

Book Sale (Jane)

Stasi reported that the sorters have asked for a laptop computer that can be used to check book prices while books are being sorted. The board approved a motion to approve the spending up to \$500 for the purchase of a laptop computer for the use of the book sorters.

The library is looking for volunteers to help tag books with RFID tags. This work would take place at the Main library and consists of feeding books through a machine. Training would be required, but could probably be done at the beginning of a volunteer's first shift. Work would consist of 1 or 2-hour shifts when the Main library is open. This project is projected to be completed by June 30.

New signs have been printed for the mini book sales. The design is based on the design that will be used on the van recently purchased by the Friends.

Aviva is signing up volunteers for the next book sale, which is March 27-29.

Membership (Vicki)

Vicki reported the following membership numbers for January 31:

Adult	209
Senior	76
Life	53
Patron	2
Sustaining	27
Youth	6
Family	138
Friend Donor	4
Foundation Donor	<u>732</u>
Total	1247

Nominating (Ann)

No report.

Liaison Reports

Liaison to the Durham Library Foundation (Jeff)

The Foundation is looking for nominations to their board. The Foundation endowment has lost about 25% in value, and the board is revising its budget. Marge is serving on the committee that will choose the art for the South branch, which will be funded by a grant from the Herndon Foundation. Twenty-four artists have expressed interest. To be eligible, artists must live and work in North Carolina.

Liaison to the Durham Library Board of Trustees (Wendell)

The Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, February 3. The meeting was tranquil with little divisiveness.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Volunteer Coordinator

We still need a person to coordinate book sale volunteers, starting with the June sale. Marge stated that this is a great volunteer opportunity for new members of the board and it would be very disappointing if we had to go outside the board to fill the position, especially as the book sales are the only way that we raise money.

Aviva said that about six weeks before a sale she sends an email message to everyone on the volunteer list who has an email address. Two weeks later, she sends a second email blast. Then she calls people who do not have email addresses. After all the cashier shifts have been filled, she sends an email reminder just before the sale.

Scholarship Committee

Two people from the scholarship committee will go through the scholarship applications and select the recipients. Wendell and Martha expressed interest in helping with this effort. Aviva asked for a list of the responsibilities and projected time commitment for the people who review the scholarship applications.

Van

There has been a delay in having the graphic wrap installed on the van purchased with funds from the Friends. The wrap was delivered to the company that will install it, but it was the wrong size.

Book Club Kits

The library has received tote bags for the book club kits that were funded by the Friends. The bags have the library logo on one side and the Friends logo on the other side. Book club kits will allow book clubs to check out multiple copies of the same book. When a book club checks out a kit, the books plus accompanying book club materials will be provided in a book club kit tote bag. Book club kits will be housed at East, but they can be moved to any of the branches for checkout.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will be held at the same time as the regular June meeting. A suggestion was made that we should invite the Friends Scholarship recipients so they can be recognized.

Adjournment

Bobbie adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Submitted by Vicki Hertz