

Friends of Dexter District Library Minutes
September 12, 2007

Our Mission: Helping the Library fulfill its role in the community by fund raising, promotion and support.

Present: Cindy Evans, Kantha Gardner, Marty Davis, Art Dykman, Linda Hosford, Sue Smith, Mary Aleksoff

No meet was held in July or August. Minutes from the June meeting were approved with one spelling error correction.

President's report
No report

Vice President's report
Because of computer problems, discussions of Bylaw amendments were postponed. Hopefully, Kantha can send out the proposed changes prior to the next meeting. Discussion of the upcoming annual membership meeting generated a sub committee of Kantha and Sue Smith. They will brainstorm and come up with ideas for generating better attendance at the membership meeting. Sending printed invitations, a big notice posted at the library, and serving desserts were discussed. Cindy Evans will contact Paul Cousins regarding the potential for the meeting to take place at Gordon Hall. The date for the annual membership meeting was set for Thursday, November 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Treasurer's report
Great books sales this summer. Dexter Daze sale generated ~\$1870. Our total deposits are more than \$22,000. A motion was made, seconded and approved for Art to investigate and proceed with opening Certificates of Deposit for all but \$5000, which will be left in the checking account. He will break the total to be invested into separate CDs with the maturity dates staggered. Art paid \$20 to the state for the listing of board members for non profit organizations.

Secretary's report
There were a large number of returned mails from the last mailing sent out. Sue, with the help of Marty and Mary, will call the individuals to try to ascertain the problem. A monthly notice for the Friends board meeting will be sent to the entire membership to not only remind the board members of the date but hopefully attract new people.

Volunteer Coordinator
No report

Membership report
Sue is still having problems with her computer. She will try to get some help so she can get the membership list updated soon. A suggestion was made to post something easy and convenient on the Friends board at the library for current members' changes.

Trustee's report

Book sales for 2007 were up across the board. Marty will be out of town for the Oct. book sale. Christie Mansour, who usually handles the set up and Carolyn, who handles the volunteers, have things under control. The web site for Kim, our consignment sales person, is www.newbostonusedbooks.com She also has www.newbostonfinearts.com

Director's report

Cost for the summer reading program including prizes, performers, etc. was between \$3000 - \$4000. A motion was made, seconded and approved for the Friends to give the library \$1000 for the sponsorship of prizes for the summer program. More than 1000 kids signed up and more than 500 completed the program. As a comparison, Dearborn's library had 300 kids complete their summer program. Dearborn is a much larger community. Circulation continues to increase at a good pace. In the late 90s and early 2000s the library was experiencing huge increases, as much as 75% from period to period comparisons. The rate of growth has slowed down but is still a very respectable 6% over last year. Currently, the number of items circulated annually is more than 275,000, for a population of 16,000 based on the 2000 census.

Story time will begin on Monday, Sept 17th.

The underground retention and electrical, in preparation for the foundation work, have been the focus at the construction site of the new library. The site is difficult to work with being bound by both the park and railroad, leaving access from only 2 sides. Additional trees on village property which posed a potential problem were identified and removed. The water retention system under the parking lot was handled by digging a deep pit where conduits were routed to water holding tanks then distributed to pipes. This was done in an effort to keep erosion under control and not overload the village sewer. Village estimates on the cost of connecting to the water/sewer system are good. This is welcome news as Chelsea's new library experienced problems with this issue resulting in a lawsuit. Excavation for the foundation will be happening soon. We should see the steel structure take form sometime next month.

There is concern over the potential reduction in state funding for the TLN (The Library Network). Paul has been working with the other libraries within the cooperative to reduce the impact of a loss of funding. He has been asked to be on the steering committee for the TLN. DDL usually receives funding between \$12,000 and \$24,000 annually from the State of Michigan. The interlibrary loan system is fully funded through state aid.

There was discussion about changing the door to the Friends room at the new library to a full windowed double door. Paul was going to coordinate a time with the architect for discussion regarding this.

Next meeting will be held Wed, Oct 10, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

Minutes submitted by

Linda Hosford

Secretary, Friends of the Dexter District Library