

Friends of the Dexter District Library  
Minutes  
January 9, 2008

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

Minutes from the December 12 meeting were approved.

Present: Mary Westhoff, Sue Smith, Carolyn Tyson, Margaret Steptoe, Dan Chapman, Mary Higgins, Cindy Evans, Linda Hosford

President's report:  
No report

Vice President's report:

Following the agenda provided by Kantha, a discussion on 501c3 status concluded with Cindy Evans to follow up with Dan Stock from the Friends of Michigan Libraries. Cindy will report back at the February meeting and make recommendations. As a 501c3 organization we may be required to give receipts for donations. The library receives donated items first and already gives receipts as they have first option to donations. Sherry Elliot at the Ann Arbor Community Foundation was another resource person to contact. Dan Chapman will investigate a potential accountant for pro bono work. We are members of the FOML (Friend of Michigan Libraries) and the minutes of their meetings will be published on their web site. Mary Westhoff will locate minutes and report back on items concerning our group including meeting times and places. It is common practice for board members to sign a conflict of interest statement annually. A simple document was recommended. Dan will bring an example from another organization. Sue will follow up with this and report at the February meeting.

It was recommended any revisions to the bylaws be postponed until April, with proposed changes circulated prior to the meeting.

A discussion regarding changes to the logo resulted in a general consensus to keep the same logo. Mary Higgins will investigate printing signs for the book sales, bookshelves, and bookmarks with a coordinated approach that showcases the Friends. She will coordinate with Allison Brueckner, who recently finished our updated brochure and manages the friends web page.

Membership report:

Sue will contact the Friends group at the Chelsea library and hopefully set up a guest speaker for the March meeting. She will also follow up on a FOML manual which should be kept at the library for access as a reference source.

General discussion:

There was general consensus to postpone the Friends 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary party to the time period around the opening of the new library. Gordon Hall, the site proposed earlier for this event, is under construction and is muddy and difficult to move around. A private party for the Friends

prior to the general public opening could generate lots of goodwill. Donations from local businesses would be sought. Linda will talk with Paul McCann to determine the viability of this.

Future discussion of the anniversary party was tabled until the April meeting. There was discussion on "purposeful" fund raising. One suggestion was to rent the library during off hours for private groups. Discussion regarding this with Paul McCann would include the subject of alcohol service. Also discussed was the purchase of the "wishing well" for an ongoing revenue generator. Margaret will investigate the cost of the "wishing well" coin drop.

Book sales were very low in January - \$178. Carolyn, who was reporting for Marty, indicated the usual book sellers were not at the sale. She speculated this was a sign of the times as Dec. sales were also off. A question regarding how we advertise and promote the book sales came up. Dan will have a posting of the monthly book sale included in the Dexter Seniors' newsletter.

Feedback from 2 people on the new meeting time was that Wednesday night conflicted with church functions. Consensus was to continue for 6 months at the new time and then re-evaluate.

The advocacy postcard topic was postponed until May.

Agenda items for next month to include

report on 501c3 - Cindy

pro bono accountant - Dan

report on minutes from FOML - Mary Westhoff

report on logo/signs/bookmarks - Mary Higgins

report on cost of "wishing well"- Margaret Steptoe

report on FOML manual and speaker for March meeting - Sue

report on possibility of Friends private party - Linda

questions for the speaker for the March meeting - all

Minutes submitted by Linda Hosford, Secretary

Next Friends meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, February 13, 2008