

The December 9, 2009 board meeting of the St. Cloud Friends of the Library was called to order by President Jo Weis at 5:30 p.m. in the Array Room on the first floor of the library.. Present were:

Shirley Lafler (sec.)	Ingunn Sverrisdottir (treas)	Rose Ford
Steve Engels	Joanne Kudrna (v.p)	Chris Mallo (staff)
Bev Pehler	Michelle Monson (staff)	Karen Pundsack (staff)
Jo Weis (pres.)	Libbie Brunsvold	
Dick Jokinen	David Malone	

Absent: Sarah Gewirtz (ex-officio), Mike Garrity

Before the meeting Chris Mallo distributed Christmas candy to the Board members. Thanks, Chris. The president announced that Ken Bruce, longtime member and former treasurer, would be coming to the meeting to present a gift to us, and that Theresa Theisen, the new volunteer coordinator, would not be able to be present.

The secretary's minutes were read and approved. Joanne K. moved approval and Libbie B. seconded. Ingunn S. gave the November treasurer's report, and recapitulated the Friends' gifts to the library this year, which are about \$36,000. Dick J. moved approval and Rose Ford seconded.

Chris Mallo gave a report on children's activities, which included participation in the "Nights and Lights" program. As part of "legacy funding" (the revenue from a new state tax) children's author Nancy Carlson will speak here in March. Tentative plans call for a book signing at the Waite Park branch. Michelle Monson discussed the Library cart drill team participation in the "Nights and Lights" parade. She also said that, as a result of legacy funding, a group called "Silver Roots" (musical) will give a performance at the library in January. They are also looking at engaging the George Mauer group and the Stearns County Pachenga Society. (local musical groups) She also noted that a Sealy Mattress commercial was filmed at the library this morning. (connection to library not immediately apparent)

Bookstore Committee Report

As part of this report, Jo W. showed bookmarks which will advertise our upcoming sale and the annual meeting. We will be placing them by the automatic checkout machines. Rose F. and Steve E. passed around a sign up sheet to work at the upcoming sale. We will have two or three people in each time period.

Nominating Committee Report

Dick J. has two serious prospects in mind, (both men) and will know by this Friday, if one of them can serve.

Old Business

Ingunn S. presented the final draft of the 2010 budget. The following comments were expressed:

1-Funding for adult programs would be premature. It is not something we have historically done.

2- The one-half share of revenue going directly to the library is under "operating expenses."

3-Funding for mailings is only an estimate at this time.

4-We are not budgeting specific amounts (grants) this year for things like books, DVDs, children's

books, etc. We are asking the library to make its needs known specifically, as they become known, before funding. Joanne K. moved adoption of this budget, which will be presented at the annual meeting, and Dick J. seconded. The draft budget was approved.

Membership committee meeting

Libbie B. presented a template for a four page newsletter, which was part of an SCSU communications class project to help us with our communications. Libbie B. thinks she can do this newsletter on her computer. Bev P. would like “donations welcome” put in the newsletter, and Rose Ford may write an article on the bookstore for it. The membership committee’s “Membership Communications Plan” is attached and is mostly self-explanatory.. These ideas are not completely “set in stone” and will possibly evolve. We need to flesh out ideas for newsletter topics and to explain and detail the benefits of membership. Joanne K. moved adoption of the communications plan and Dick J. seconded. The plan was approved.

The agenda was suspended for the appearance of Ken Bruce, former board member and bookstore volunteer, who presented the board with a lovely wall hanging for the Friends’ Bookstore. Thanks to Ken for his caring and thoughtfulness.

Joanne K. made a report on Kent Frohrip’s “music in the library” project. He has given up on the idea of a piano in the library, and is concerned about arrangements for custodial staff for performances. Michelle M. explained that rooms have to be gotten ready by users. Circulation and custodial staff will no longer help with this, although custodial staff will still be in the building. The staff are city employees and any extra work arrangements would have to be made with the city. Joanne K. has been given a fiscal agent contract. We will all examine this, possibly by e-mail attachment. Kent Frohrip is going to try to obtain a Central Minnesota Arts Board grant of \$6000.00 and thinks he would need to raise an additional \$1200.00 to fund his project. Joanne K. will be submitting further reports.

Jo W. presented some information about FOLUSA (Friends of the Library USA) and passed out four newsletters. This organization is part of a larger organization called ALTAFF (Assoc. of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations). We can join as affiliate members—non-voting. We cannot be on any boards. Dues for Friends are based on their affiliate library budget. Our dues should be \$65.00 a year. A motion to join FOLUSA was made by Dick Jokinen, seconded by Joanne K. The motion carried. Their website is www.folusa.org. and our user name will be TRACK. The password is TRAIN. Dick Jokinen made a motion to join MALF (Minnesota Association of Friends of the Library) at \$25.00 a year. Rose F. seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.