

**FRIENDS OF THE MODESTO LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

December 2, 2010

MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Modesto Library.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members present included Stella Beratlis, Anne Britton, Ellen Dambrosio, Jonaca Driscoll, and Joan Patterson as well as the manager for the Modesto library, Amy Taylor and visitor Bev Finley.

MINUTES

The August 25th minutes were approved as presented.

YES FOR LIBRARIES 2012 UPDATE – Bev Finley

The 1/8 cent sales tax levy in Stanislaus County for libraries expires in 2013. The tax provides about 85% of the total budget for the 13 county libraries. The campaign to renew the levy is co-chaired by Bev Finley. She presented the current status and update on the campaign. The renewal measure will most likely be placed on the June 2012 ballot. A survey will be conducted in the spring to gauge public attitudes to be addressed on the voter pamphlet, although a wider public informational campaign will begin later in 2011. Stanford professor Abraham Verghese, author of *Cutting for Stone* has been invited to speak in the fall as a kick-off. Ms. Finley also thanked the Friends of the Modesto Library for their early financial contribution to the campaign and urged continuing support by the organization and its members.

STANISLAUS READS – Susan Lilly

Like similar “One Book” programs, *Stanislaus Reads* will encourage residents throughout the county to read the same book. Agriculture, a major element of our county’s environment, is the theme and there will actually be three books: one for each age category. The adult book will be *Wisdom of the Last Farmer: Harvesting Legacies from the Land* / by David Mas Masumoto. The children’s novel is *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan, and the picture book will be *Apple to Oregon* by Deborah Hopkinson.

Events will begin in the spring, with activities and programs for all ages held through the summer, especially around the time of the County Fair. It is hoped that each Friends group will support one family event/program. A fundraising dinner will be held in June and has already received a \$1000 donation from J.S.West to support this. The object of the fundraising is to provide 1000 books to be given away to promote literacy in the county.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT – Amy Taylor

- Amy introduced herself and outlined her background. She has worked for SCFL since 1998 in Reference, Information Technology, and as Ceres Regional Libraries Manager before coming to manage the Modesto Library.
- The Halloween Party was well received with many positive comments from the 184 in attendance for the costume parade on October 30th.
- Dinner Theater in September where Carnival of Chaos performed to a crowd of 85.
- Read to a Dog in October and November saw 49 children reading to therapy dogs in the Story Time Room.
- The October All Kids Craft Fair was a huge success with 84 participants selling their creations and showing off their talents.
- Three recent teen programs included the very popular Anime Day [62 participants], Wii/Duct Tape event [14], a Voki event [8], and Harry Potter Cosplay [16].
- Adult programs sponsored by the Friends of the Modesto Library included Water Wise Gardening presented by Scenic Nursery and Good Bugs/Bad Bugs by Richard Anderson, Retired MJC Biology Professor.
- Upcoming events include Read to a Reindeer [dog] in December and January will see the resumption of the Hospice Series.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Stella Beratlis

- *The Little Shop* plans an all day sale on December 4, 2010. Many items at 25% off, with some like the journals at 50% or more. The steering committee met with County Librarian Vanessa Czopek to discuss the future of The Little Shop. A flat display case will be placed near the library entry for better advertising. Suggestions at the meeting included moving to sale of more used books and because of the problem finding volunteers, shortening the open hours to just one full day a week. Deposits for October totaled \$240.
- ALTAFF [formerly FOLUSA] is the national friends organization. Comedienne *Paula Poundstone* is a national spokesperson for them. She will be performing at the State Theater on February 18, 2010. FOML would act as an agent to get her books to sell that evening (fully refundable if we do not sell them); do sales at the performance of CDs/Audios for a percentage; and as part of the partnership, the Friends group receives a number of free tickets to the show (between 5 and 10), which they may raffle off, give to staff, use themselves, etc.
- **Consensus was to participate by finding someone to act as FOML coordinator for the opportunity.**
- *National Friends of Libraries Week* October 17-23 was coordinated by EllenDambrosio. City Council presented a proclamation in support of the Modesto Library to Stella Beratlis. At the membership table in the library, grocery cards, membership form, newsletters and flyers on the upcoming Scholastic Book Fair were handed out by volunteers.
- FOML is co-sponsoring the debut of the newest of Song of the San Joaquin poetry issue on December 4, 2010 from 1-3p.m.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT - Ellen Dambrosio

- *Membership renewal notices* have been emailed to all current members with email addresses who have not yet renewed and sent through the post office to those without (86). A slightly revised request was sent to all members who had lapsed within the past two years (37).
- *Income from grocery cards* totaled \$1241.73 for January through November 2010. Raley's income was \$820.71 and Save Mart income was \$421.02.
- *Mall fountain coins* are soon due to be available for the second quarter.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Jonaca Driscoll

Expenses and Income are those since the August report as of November 30, 2010.

Expenses

Hartford Insurance	500.00
P.O. Box	44.00
Stamps	88.00
ALTAFF	50.00
TOTAL	682.00

Income

Mall coins	1117.77
United Way	26.96
Raleys	232.72
Scholastic Book Fair	878.40
Memberships	275.00
Donations	40.00
TOTAL	2,570.85

FOML Savings Account

Balance from August 24, 2010	1,282.97
Interest	.03
TOTAL	1,283.00

FOML Checking Account

Amended Balance from August 24, 2010 (1,899.72)	2,123.72
Deposits	2,570.85
Withdrawals	[682.00]
TOTAL	4012.57

Peti Taylor Checking Account

Balance from August 24, 2010	1,778.28
Purchase of teen tables and chairs	[833.38]
TOTAL	944.90

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Anne Britton

- *Scholastic Book Fair* generated \$893.40 in cash profit and membership dues collected. An additional \$1030.11 worth of books and posters were purchased for local youth charities and library programs. Also, \$233.35 in “Scholastic Dollars” is available to spend with Scholastic. Twenty volunteers put in 94 hours to make this a successful fundraiser. [Full report available on request.]
- The Halloween Party at the Modesto Library as mentioned in the Librarian’s Report was a fun event for all involved. The Stanislaus County Library Foundation co-sponsored the event and provided funds for the refreshments and door prizes of book store gift certificates. Susan Hannah, who organized the event, also led the crowd of 184 in a creepy, ghoulish participation song. Trick or Treat stations at the Circulation, Reference and Children’s public service desks as well as The Little Shop handed out treats of leftover summer reading prizes and candy. A cookie was also served in the auditorium. Our thanks to Susan and her volunteers for a fun time!
- *Organizational Calendar* is still in draft form and available on-line. The Secretary will continue to update and distribute the calendar.
- *Director duties and organizational procedures* still need to be codified in some way.

ACTION TAKEN: *Directors will review job descriptions and any procedures on file on Google Docs and post/edit/supplement as needed.*

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING EVENT

The annual membership meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 2, 2011 in the library auditorium. Barbara Quinn is in charge of arrangements/publicity/room booking, etc.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Stella has appointed Ellen Dambrosio, Anne Britton, and Ellen Burchett to join her in developing a slate of candidates to be presented at the March General Membership Meeting.

NEXT MEETING: March 2, 2011

Agenda Items may include:

- **Election of Officers**
- **Campaign Update**
- **Stanislaus Reads Update**
- **Little Shop Update**
- **Review of Organizational Calendar & Duties Roster**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20p.m.

Dated: 2 March 2011

Respectfully submitted, Anne Britton, Secretary