

Meeting Minutes, Friends of the Durham Library Board
3 August 2008, 7:30 p.m.
Community Room, Southwest Branch Library

Attending Board Members: Bobbie Walters-Brown, presiding; Jeff Anton; Mary Auen; Jane Goodridge; Roz Grace; Vicki Hertz; Gerry Larson; Wendell Musser; Marge Nordstrom; Martha Scotford; Aviva Starr; Andre Vann; Anne Wilder; Angela Zoltners.

Also attending: Skip Auld, Library Director; Anastasia Bush, Grant Writer; Carol Walters, Book Sale Committee co-chair.

Call to Order

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

Approval of Minutes

The board approved the minutes of the August 2008 annual meeting.

Treasurer's Report (Mary)

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

Year-to-date income:	\$13,067.81
Year-to-date expenses:	\$12,266.84

Mary also reported the following for August 2008:

Monthly income:	\$4,516.79
Monthly expenses:	\$6,191.00

The board approved the treasurer's report.

Standing Committee Reports

Book Sale (Jane and Carol)

The permanent book sales are doing very well and planning is continuing for the October sale at the Main library. Aviva is in the process of signing up volunteers for the October sale, and a sign-up sheet was passed around.

Books will be given away to non-profits on the Monday after the October sale. Non-profits will be sent invitations to the give-away.

Mini City Media comes once a month to haul away books that cannot be sold. These books were formerly thrown into the County dumpster. Mini City pays us for the books. They sort through the books and sell anything that they think is salable through ebay and a network of small book stores. They strip the bindings off the remaining books and sell the paper to be recycled, so very little ends up in the landfill. We currently get about \$200-\$300 a month from Mini City Media.

Membership (Vicki)

Vicki reported the following membership numbers for August 30:

Adult	170
Senior	53
Life	54
Sustaining	9
Youth	5
Family	101
Friend Donor	12
Foundation Donor	<u>882</u>
Total	1286

Nominating (Ann)

Welcome to new board members Gerry Larson and Martha Scotford, who are attending for the first time.

Liaison Reports

Liaison to the Durham Library Foundation (Vicki)

No report. The Foundation board meets on September 15.

Liaison to the Durham Library Board of Trustees (Wendell)

The Board of Trustees met on August 12. There is an ongoing controversy over the library's overdue fine policy.

Old Business

Volunteers are needed to help out Aviva, Vicki, and Anne, who are each dealing with multiple or large responsibilities. Please contact Bobbie if you are interested in any of these positions:

- Liaison to the Library Foundation. This group meets at 3:30 pm on the third Monday of odd-numbered months. Vicki's term as Foundation liaison will expire in May 2009, so she must be replaced by that time.
- Volunteer coordinator for book sales. This position should be filled in time for the April sale, or at the latest, the June sale, as Aviva will be taking over as president next July 1.
- Anne needs someone to help her with publicity.

New Business

Publicity for Book Sales

Stasi asked us to consider increasing the publicity budget for the book sales. She would like to add \$1175 to the budget for the October and April 2009 sales. This increased budget would buy us increased advertising in the *Herald-Sun*, *News & Observer*, and *Independent*, including a banner ad at the bottom of the first page of the *Durham News* on the Saturday of the sale. After the two sales, we can evaluate whether the additional expenditure brought in any additional revenue. The board voted to approve the expenditure of an additional \$1175 for newspaper advertisements for the October and April sales (\$1175 for each sale). The expense will be added to line 70 of the budget (Book Sale Expenses), while an offsetting increase in income will be added to the Book Sale line in the budget.

Down the road, we would like to develop a database of email addresses so we can send an email blast prior to each sale. One suggestion was to have sign-up sheets at the cashier's stations where patrons could fill out their email addresses and indicate how they found out about the sale. We do have email addresses for most current Friends members.

Skip mentioned that the library already has a database of library customers who have signed up to get overdue notices via email. He is working on getting the library IT department to make this database available for library marketing purposes.

Wrap-a-Rama

To ensure the success of the wrap-a-rama, which is scheduled for Saturday, December 6, all board members should volunteer for at least one shift. If we have 3-hour shifts, with 2 or 3 people on a shift at 5 locations, we'll need about 20-30 volunteers.

Jeff said that he may be able to get a free advertisement in the *Independent* for the Wrap-a-Rama. Jeff also mentioned that the Scrap Exchange may either have wrapping paper that we could use, or they might be able to direct us to possible sources.

A Wrap-a-Rama steering committee was formed, with members Carol, Martha, and Gerry. We will also ask Gina Rozier to serve on the committee, as she has prior experience with this type of event.

Stasi will report back in October with a suggested budget for the Wrap-a-rama.

Paula Poundstone Event

Paula Poundstone will be performing on October 24 at the Carolina Theatre in Durham. She is national spokesman for the Friends of the Library USA (FOLUSA), and she will make a pitch for the Friends of the Durham Library at her performance. The Friends have an opportunity to use Ms. Poundstone's appearance to promote the Friends.

At a minimum, we can purchase copies of Ms. Poundstone's book and sell them in the theatre lobby the night of the performance. Ms. Poundstone will autograph the books that people purchase. Any books that are unsold can be returned for a full refund. Other Friends groups have ordered about 60 books for this event.

We will have to print new membership brochures, as our current brochures are out of date. This will come out of our printing budget.

At the October meeting, we will decide what to do with the 5-10 free tickets that the Carolina Theatre will be giving us.

Signature Projects

Stasi distributed a list of nine signature projects suggested by the library staff:

1. Panel display TV.
2. Buy a van for library programs.
3. Turn the business room at the Main library into a computer room.
4. Buy display furniture (endcaps, wedding-cake-like display stands, etc.)
5. Turn courtyard to the left of the parking lot entrance into a small garden.
6. Launch 4-year scholarship program for staff pursuing AA degrees.
7. Update Bragtown branch.
8. Provide baby book and library card information for every new baby in Durham County.
9. Add staffing and free books to give to children who do not have library cards.

Skip commented that #3, #5, and #8 are not great ideas for right now (because of the renovation of Main that will be taking place soon, and because new babies already receive books from another agency). We will discuss the remaining ideas, plus any ideas that board members have at the October meeting.

Library News

Skip announced that the final community meeting for the architect's study of the Main library renovation will take place on Thursday, Sept 25 from 5 pm to 6:30 pm.

Adjournment

Due to the number of topics to be discussed, the October meeting will start at **7:00 pm**. Bobbie adjourned the meeting at 8:55.

Submitted by

Vicki Hertz