

Friends of Upper Dublin Public Library
Board Meeting
Upper Dublin Library Conference Room
Thursday, November 9th, 2017

The regular meeting of the Board of Friends of UDPL was called to order at 1:05PM by Board President, Robert Stutz.

Board Members Present: Jerry Caplan, Bryan Gillespie, Dick Haggard, Jo-Ann Hunt, Cathy Murphy, Karen Preston, Connie Sugarbread, and Robert Stutz. Those absent were Joan Chinitz, Jan Frohner, and Sandy Merritt.

Others Present from Library Staff and Friends: Cheri Fiory, Library Director; Andrea Merrick from the Library Board; John Hunt, active Friend. There was one addition to new business in the published agenda.

Minutes of the October Monthly Meeting. Approved as issued by the Secretary, Joan Chinitz.

Treasurer's Report (Jo-Ann Hunt, Treasurer) Jo-Ann gave her report through October, along with a line item comparison with budget for 2017 and the prior year to date. Currently, the Friends' total balance on hand is \$87,175. Expenses during October were \$3,648, income from all sources was \$5,304, and expenses year-to-date are \$36,872, substantially under budget. Pay Pal is now available and is being used by some for on-line donations. The Treasurer's report was approved as submitted.

Membership Robert reported for Jan Frohner, Membership Chair, that the membership campaign, launched last month with about 2450 mailings, has to date netted 74 renewals of current members, 2 lapsed and 23 new members. Twelve have responded on-line with their Pay Pal contributions.

Fundraising Jo-Ann reported the total of \$3,522 income from last month's jewelry sale and was pleased with the results this year. She presented a chart of purchase totals and numbers of buyers vs sale ranges, for which the largest (\$533) was in the \$10-20 range; 4 buyers contributed \$714 in the 'over \$120' range. Jo-Ann again was thanked by the Board for her leadership of that major fundraising event, in which many participated. Jo-Ann needs to find a location for future storage of her collected jewelry for the next sale. Cheri will check for a secure space in the library.

Old Business A letter to Robert from Mr. Jonathan Bleemer, ass't township manager, reported the results of his inspection of the Treasurer's records for the past fiscal year. He found the accounts to be "accurate and complete in all material respects and all financial transactions properly recorded and documented." This audit completes a goal the Board set earlier this year to meet a good management practice requirement. We thanked Jo-Ann again for her excellent work as Board treasurer. Cheri will inform township commissioners of this result, and we also thank Mr. Bleemer for his work.

New Business

Review of 2018 Friends Library Budget Cheri presented her draft summary of requested funds from the Friends to help support her total budget for 2018. A copy of the draft, modified only in the increase of support for

subscription and memberships from \$3,250 to \$3,500, is attached to these minutes for retention in the Secretary's records.

Several programs elicited considerable discussion, such as the Adult Programs and Author events (a total of \$13,000), subscription memberships (see list attached, increasing the very popular Elmwood Park Zoo tickets to three from two, with others remaining the same, for a total of \$3,500), the museum management software maintenance (at \$800, this system, bought this year, is soon to be fully operable, permitting easy sign up and handling of our museum pass and other subscription programs). Staff development costs, for which we made a special contribution of \$990 this year, ought to be only a township supported item, as suggested by Andrea, on which the Board agreed; \$0 is budgeted to this for 2018. The Board recognized that the expanded adult program has augmented our mission to the community and should receive more discussion in the Board's longer-term strategizing. We put this off for now in view of the major considerations occurring during the next year in library venue discussions. Bryan requested a clearer breakdown of the budget, as normally presented in the Treasurer's report, and Jo-Ann said she would do that. After our productive discussion of Cheri's draft, the Board approved the total budget of \$33,000 for the listed expenditures.

Director's Report Cheri briefly reviewed progress of a joint group of Library Staff and Township personnel studying long-term ideas for the Township. She said that anyone interested in joining her in a working task group being formed now is welcome to let her know of their interest, especially toward fund-raising and further ideas for space utilization. Cathy and Cheri mentioned a video of random testimonials in progress, capturing ideas about relocation and use of a new library. The video soon will be made available to the township commissioners and others interested.

Board Change The Board regretfully and unanimously requested Robert to approach Board member Sandy Merritt, who has not been able to attend most meetings of the past year for health reasons. Robert will ask Sandy to accept emerita status with the thanks of the Board for her years of service.

Next Meeting: Having approved the library component of the Friends budget for 2018, the Board agreed not to meet in December. The next meeting of the Friends Board will be on Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 1PM in the Library conference room.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Haggard,
For Joan Chinitz, Secretary