

Friends of Upper Dublin Public Library
Annual Meeting
Upper Dublin Township Building Meeting Room
Thursday, April 19, 2018

The annual meeting was called to order at the scheduled and publicized time, 11:00AM, by Board President, Robert Stutz. The list of those attending is attached to the Secretary's copy of these minutes. A quorum of 31 Friends (over 10% of our membership) was achieved and business progressed.

Board Members Present: All members of the current Friends Board were present: Dick Haggard, Jo-Ann Hunt, Jan Frohner, Karen Preston, Bryan Gillespie, Cathy Murphy, Connie Sugarbread and Robert Stutz. Robert noted that Jerry Caplan was present at this meeting, and advised that Jerry is now an emeritus member of the Friends Board. Joan Chinitz was not in attendance, and Robert advised that she is also now an emeritus member of the Board.

Others Present from Library Staff and Friends: Cheri Fiory, Library Director; Andrea Merrick, Wendy Rader and Cathy Murphy from the Township Library Board. Other Friends, guests and volunteers present are included in the list attached to these minutes. Following his welcome and the self-introductions of all present, Robert led the meeting through the stated agenda.

Minutes of the March Monthly Meeting. Additional copies of last month's minutes were distributed for review by those present. Dick briefly reviewed them, as written by Cathy Murphy, highlighting main points of interest. They were approved as issued and will be posted on our website.

Treasurer's Report (Jo-Ann Hunt, Treasurer) Jo-Ann gave her report through March 2018 along with a summary of Income and Expenses for the years 2012 through 2017, 2018 to date, and the budget for each of those years. Her report included a list of the numerous, varied projects undertaken and supported by each year from 2013 through March 2018. Currently, the Friends' total balance is \$96,424.15. Our budget for this year is slightly less than half of our total balance, at \$42,875.20. The Treasurer's report was approved as submitted. A hard copy of the handouts is attached to the Secretary's copy of these minutes. Jo-Ann was given thanks by all present for her work as Treasurer.

Membership Jan Frohner, Membership Chair, reported that the membership of the UDPL Friends currently stands at a total of 278, of whom 212 are renewals from previous years and 55 are new members from an appeal to 2200 library patrons who had checked out 15 or more books in 2017. The annual membership drive yielded a 74% re-

newal rate, very close to what we have achieved in past drives. Jan also thanked Jo-Ann for her efforts in assisting in monitoring membership numbers. Jan also reported that the annual "Thank You" event in 2017 was a beer tasting that was well attended. Plans are now underway to continue this tradition of recognizing donors; this year's event will be held on June 1, and will afford attendees the opportunity to tour the new building at 520 Virginia Drive.

Dick invited ideas from the group about ways that the Friends might be able to increase the membership number from the 275 range. He encouraged attendees to send their suggestions, we would welcome them.

Fundraising Jo-Ann updated all on her continuing efforts for the Craft Fair at Mondauk Park on Saturday, August 25th from 9-3PM. She has 22 vendors signed up to date, and is continuing to identify more vendors for this annual event. Jo-Ann also reported that the annual jewelry sale will also be held at the library again in 2018.

Robert reported that a separate fundraising committee has recently been formed in response to the relocation of the library to 520 Virginia Drive.

Old Business

Nothing to report from Library Board. (Cheri will address in her report various issues related to relocation of library to 520 Virginia Drive.)

New Business; Director's Report Cheri Fiory, Library Director, provided an extensive report about the township's decision to purchase a building in the Office Park on Virginia Drive. She provided a recap of the process, noting that the township's decision to purchase 520 Virginia Drive came at the end of a 10-year effort to identify the need for more space for Upper Dublin Township, to address township administration and library/community needs. Prior studies noted the library's specific need for additional space. The township determined that the space on Virginia Drive offered a good opportunity to address these ongoing issues. Upon making the purchase, a committee was then formed to evaluate and make recommendations to the commissioners regarding the use of this space. This committee's recommendation included relocation of the library to 520 Virginia Drive. Efforts are now underway to pursue grant opportunities to assist in the cost of this venture, including a state Keystone Grant to assist with renovation costs. Cheri also oversaw a community survey to open the process of community engagement. She is working with a design team to assure we can meet needs that have been identified (e.g., larger children's area, more collaborative space, more quiet areas, cafe, auditorium).

As noted by Robert, a fundraising committee has also been formed, comprised of township staff, library staff, library board mem-

bers. A fundraising consultant will be secured to assist in these efforts. Tentative time frames are: early 2019 construction starts, with a possible Fall 2019 occupancy date.

Cheri also noted that a special meeting of the commissioners will be held to May 22, 2018 on 520 Virginia Drive issues. In addition, she encouraged attendees to sign up for UDPL newsletters to keep apprised of developments.

Opened for questions:

1) How many cars come into our current parking lot?
Answer: not sure of that number. Agreed that this should be determined, perhaps by using a trip counter.

2) What is plan for use of new library by high school students who can now walk across street to library? Answer:
*new building is not far, about a 20 minute walk
*library study determined that @3-4% of total 170,000 patrons are high school students
*ongoing conversations about accessibility are happening, including bus/shuttle options

Robert further reported on the June 1 "Thank you Friends" event: Invites will go out to library donors (Friends) in May, and we will host a "wine and cheese" meet and greet in the Library after closing hours on Friday, June 1. Robert and other Board members have started planning and preparing for this gathering, which will include small group tours of 520 Virginia Drive, departing by bus from the current Library.

Nomination and Election of 2018-19 Board Members Robert announced that the slate of nominees for election at this meeting had been posted and includes all those currently on the Board (above listed). With no further nominations in hand, Robert called for the election. All 8 Board members above were unanimously elected by those present, to serve for the next year.

Dick also noted that the Board is capable of expanding, and more members are welcome. Robert agreed and noted that anyone who wants to consider the possibility of serving on Friends Board could attend a few meetings to gain more information about the Board and how it operates. Dick also invited ideas about areas that the general Friends membership would like to see the Board more actively pursue.

Comment: Attendee commended Library Staff for Authors Programs, notably Amor Towles and Lisa See recent presentations, stated that these programs "elevate the intellectual prowess of the community."

Additional Questions:

1) will there be any tours during construction (as done during the high school construction)? Answer by Cheri: this is under discussion, details need to be worked out. Also, tours could be a component of fundraising strategy.

2) Do we know how (not high school) elementary and middle school students currently use the library? Cheri said there is interest in the school administration to increase middle school students visits. Cheri also noted that transportation can be a barrier to other groups, and we don't know what the future holds on this issue. Noted by an attendee that school bus routes could be adjusted, and/or students could get permission from parent to use bus to get to library, if a stop was added.

3) can we expand the museum pass program? Cheri answered we are up to 13 passes now, there is a full list of pass programs on the UDPL website. There is now also a separate link on the library website to reserve these passes online. Also noted: some libraries are reporting that costs of some passes are increasing because of popularity of the program.

Next Meeting: The next Friends' Board Meeting is Thursday, May 10 at 1:00 in the Library meeting room. As always, the public is welcome to attend.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at noon. All present were invited to attend the township luncheon for library volunteers in the adjacent room, at which event Cheri would be giving further remarks and the Annual Volunteer Award.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Murphy