

Friends of Upper Dublin Public Library
Board Meeting
Upper Dublin Library Conference Room
Thursday, June 14, 2018

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

Board Members Present: Jan Frohner, Bryan Gillespie, Dick Haggard, Jo-Ann Hunt, Karen Preston, Connie Sugarbread and Robert Stutz. Cathy Murphy was not able to attend.

Others from Library Staff and Friends: Cheri Fiory, Library Director, Wendy Rader from the Library Board, Susan Tofani, Library Friend and Gigi Zhang, Summer intern at the Library.

Minutes of the January Monthly Meeting: Approved as issued by Cathy Murphy, Secretary.

Treasurer's Report: Jo-Ann gave her report for May, 2018. Currently, the Friends' total balance on-hand is \$91,176.53 versus \$88,045.69 on-hand in May, 2017. Expenses for May were \$2,020.43, income from all sources was \$6,968.89. The monthly figures have a mis-match of income versus expenses from the author events by Lisa See and Michael Smerconish. The ticket income was recorded in May but not all of the expenses. The key point is that the net income should be about \$1,000 from the See event and \$1,300 from the Smerconish event. Jo-Ann also noted that book sales have been down and this was discussed later in the meeting. Jo-Ann also mentioned that the William James library will be holding a jewelry sale in October, the same month as the Friends sale.

Membership: Jan provided a brief updated Membership Report. Two new members signed up in the last month. There are now 285 Friends.

Old Business

Fundraising consultant and new library update: Cheri gave updates on both of these topics. The Fundraising Committee sent out a request for qualifications and interviewed 3 firms to work with on fundraising. The consensus was that the first step should be a feasibility study, which will help define the goals that can reasonably be set for the campaign. The cost estimates for these feasibility studies varied between about \$15,000 and \$38,000 depending on company and scope. Cheri's discussion of the new library update started with the meeting by the Board of Commissioners on May 22nd. Cheri and the other Friends who attended that meeting thought the May 22nd meeting went pretty well, that most of the Commissioners were generally in favor of moving forward with the new library. The biggest concern expressed at the May 22nd meeting was from a group of residents who live on or near Highland Avenue and Camp Hill Road who don't want an entrance to

520 Virginia Drive entering off Highland Avenue. While the Board of Commissioners seemed to support the idea of moving forward with the new library plans they have not yet committed to that. At least one of the Commissioners would like to have an estimate on the amount that could be raised as part of the capital campaign before moving forward. The Friends meeting then had a long discussion on how the feasibility study should overlap with the next step needed from the Board of Commissioners to move the new library forward. This was described as a chicken versus egg question. Options discussed included the Friends approving funds from deposits on hand for the feasibility study, offering to partially fund the study with the Township (with a refund from the Township if the Board of Commissioners doesn't ultimately decide to move forward with the new library) and simply asking the Board of Commissioners for a commitment to move forward. Karen pointed out that the library staff, and Cheri in particular, had put a huge amount of time and effort into the new library plans. All agreed and felt Cheri was in the best position to recommend the best path for the Friends to follow on funding the feasibility study.

Keystone Grant: The application was due to be submitted by June 15th and Cheri said it would be completed by the end of the day on June 14th. (Update- it was mailed in on-time). The Library's eligibility for the Keystone Grant comes from the new library. Every legislator associated with Upper Dublin has written a letter in support of the library for the grant. The grant decisions are announced in the fall. The grant amounts range from \$0 to \$750,000.

June 1st wine and cheese event for Friends: There were about 112 who attended the event. All who attended were able to take a bus from the Township building over to 520 and listen to a presentation on the proposed new library. There were two full buses (and a small number in a third bus) of attendees who took advantage of this. The final cost for the event isn't known yet, but it is expected to be about \$1,400. The feedback is that the event went well and was enjoyed by the attendees.

Craft Show Update: Jo-Ann gave an update and there are now 33 vendors signed-up for the event and she is receiving additional requests almost daily. Bryan has contacted both Kevin Carlin at Georges's and Herr's, companies that provided support last year, but hasn't heard back from them yet.

New Business

Contribution to PA Library Association: The Friends agreed to contribute \$100 to this conference for refreshments. The conference is attended by several on the Library staff.

Free Libraries: All 3 Free Libraries are up and running.

Book sales: Several options were discussed on ways to increase revenue from the book sales. There will be a review of the displays to see if more popular choices can be displayed.

Next Meetings: The next meeting of the Friends Board will be on Thursday, July 12, 2018 at 1PM in the Library conference room. The meeting will focus primarily on the Craft Show which is scheduled for August 25th, along with any new library updates Cheri is able to provide.

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan Gillespie and Connie Sugarbread
For Cathy Murphy, Secretary