

Friends of Dimond Branch Library Minutes

May 9, 2015 11:00 a.m.

In attendance: Sharon Lawless, Sandy Venning, Daphne Parson, Karen Marie Schroeder, Gen Katz, Sue Yascolt, Darshan Anant, Sarah Hodgson, and Karen Long. Sandy Venning took the minutes.

Thanks for Dimond Branch Friends and others for:

Ada Chan for the donation of bike locks to check out (2 special locks)

Karen Marie Schroeder, Gisela Merker, Diane Swanson, Dick Kolbert, Nancy Kolbert, Karen Long and Hayward Blake for assisting at Toni Locke's community memorial.

Nancy Mercer and others in Toni Locke's family for naming Friends of Dimond Library (FODL) as a recommended organization for donations in memory of Toni Locke.

Karen Marie Schroeder for writing personal thank you notes to everyone who donated funds to FODL in memory of Toni Locke.

New Secretary Process:

1. Pass around meeting sign-in sheet to get everyone's names.
2. A volunteer will take the minutes on the detailed agenda during the meeting. (Taking turns at each meeting)
3. Karen Long will type up the minutes and post them on our new website. The minutes can also be emailed to all members if desired.
4. Sandy Venning volunteered to be the first temporary secretary.

Budget and Hiring Updates:

We still have a Librarian 2 vacancy at Dimond Library. We're currently filling hours with on-call Librarians. Sarah Hodgson hopes to fill the position by December.

Budget Update from Branch Friends meeting: Karen Long reported on information recently received from Gerry Garzon, Director of Oakland Libraries. The city library funding situation is much improved this spring. The anticipated 2 ½ - 3 million \$ shortfall has been alleviated by the city council's allocation of about \$1 million (including \$500, 000 from last year) for the budget, and the city agreeing to fund non-directly library functions such as security and computer maintenance from non-Measure Q funding sources. The long-term issue of how to fund Oakland libraries has not been resolved. The Oakland Library Commission would like concerned volunteers to attend city budget hearings this spring to continue to emphasize the need for long-term budget solutions.

Remodel Updates: The scheduled starting date is November, and the library would be closed for 3 months. Sarah Hodgson reported at a recent planning meeting that permits for construction have not yet been pulled, and so she anticipates a later start date than November. A display of the architect's remodeling plans is in the display case in the lobby.

New Furniture Needed: Sarah Hodgson also reported looking at the new furniture that it is hoped will be available for the remodeled library. It is heavy-duty furniture, some of it with electrical connections, and is expensive. The anticipated cost is about \$200,000. The furniture costs will not be funded with the planned remodeling.

Calendar: Upcoming Closures

Tuesday, May 26 for Memorial Day

Saturday, July 4 for Independence Day

Library Programs (May-August) Sarah Hodgson distributed the May library program schedule and highlighted some summer activities. The most important one is the planned centennial celebration on Saturday, August 8. Many of the summer activities are being funded by the Dimond Friends' group.

Teen Advisory Board Report: Two teen members of the board joined us to report on the teen board activities. They are completing a video on the library using community members' commentary, organizing a time capsule (actually a decorated box) to share important things for the future, creating a centennial collage, and several of them are participating in a teen/young adult discussion about the importance of libraries at City Hall on June 4th from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Dimond Friends Updates:

Dimond Library Centennial party on Saturday, August 8, 1-4 p.m. Sarah Hodgson shared the library staff's tentative plans for the celebration. Katherine DiGiovanni from the History Room will do a Dimond Library history presentation. The Teen projects of the video, time capsule and 100 collage will be presented by members of the Teen Board. Community members, former staff and Dimond Library friends will have an opportunity to share memories. Children's activities like a story time, face painting, crafts or legos and music will be offered in the parking lot. Birthday cake will be shared towards the end. Volunteers are needed to help plan the event with library staff, and to help host the party itself.

Jim Hill memorial plaque -Karen Long suggested putting a memorial plaque for Jim and Helen Hill on the green metal bench in front of the library. After some discussion, the decision was made to wait to see if some other more appropriate memorial could be found in the remodeled library.

Friends' website update: new website - www.friendsofdimondlibrary.org \$20 per year for server/domain name. Karen Long is currently maintaining the new site using Word Press.

New Furniture funding - The Dimond Friends' group would like both to donate funds to help pay for the needed new furniture and to help publicize the funding need to the community. Sarah Hodgson and Karen Long will consult with Winifred Walters, the OPL library staff person in charge of grant writing and fund raising. They will suggest creating small flyers to be distributed monthly at community activities such as the Dimond Night Out (June), Dimond Picnic in the Park (July), and the Centennial Birthday celebration at the library (August). The group also discussed various visual displays about the fund raising needs and the progress being made. Karen Marie Schroeder indicated that about \$9,000 had already been donated to the Oakland Library system for the new furniture.

Oaktoberfest participation & sponsorship of a performer-the group decided to participate in Oaktoberfest again with library outreach activities/information, and to fund a family-oriented performer for the family stage. Karen Long will register our group with the Oaktoberfest planning team. The anticipated cost is \$350-400.

Volunteer needs: Group members signed up to volunteer for some of the activities below. Karen Long will also request volunteer assistance by email to all of the Friends of Dimond Library.

- crop exchanges on 6/27, 7/25, 8/29, 9/26 from 10am-12pm
- Centennial planning group & volunteers for program on August 8
- Dimond Picnic in the Park on July 19, 11-2 pm (10:30 set-up) - library outreach table

- Save Oakland Libraries wants informal speakers for city budget meetings
- Recycling light bulbs twice a month since the new program to recycle CVC light bulbs is so successful
- Volunteer to help serve free youth lunches in the summer program sponsored by the city and the county food bank

Financial Report by Karen Marie Schroeder, Treasurer. The current balance is \$21,537.12 and includes payment for the spring and summer library programs. A more detailed quarterly report is available.

Current expenditures (pending)

\$120 Website domain name renewal/server support

\$1000 to supplement adult book budget

\$165 Centennial buttons - order end of May

\$500 Centennial party

\$1500 Summer performers

\$300 Teen volunteer party

New Funding Requests:

\$75 snacks for Girls Who Code

\$75 for Victory Lee/ Master Gardeners composting class

\$100 stipend for Laxman Pranthi's Family Yoga program

\$100 awards for winners of adult summer reading program

Total requested: \$400

The Friends of Dimond Library approved the new funding requests.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Next quarterly meeting date: July 18 at 11:30 . Note the slightly later starting time due to a schedule conflict.