

Friends of Dimond Branch Library Minutes

April 30, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.

In attendance: Darshan Anant, Sarah Hodgson, Dick Kolbert, Chris Woodside, Karen Marie Schroeder, Robin Goodfellow, Gisela Merker, Karen Ball, Daphne Parson, Sue Yascolt, Sandy Venning, Ashley Bonafacio, and Karen Long.

Thanks for Dimond Branch Friends and others for all of the great volunteer help!

March Garden and parking lot clean up: Thanks to Sandy Venning & Bill, Karen Ball, Carol Schwamberger, Tom Rose, Steve Perrier, Marion Mills, Karen Long and as always, Hayward Blake. Thanks also to Public Works & Herman Miller for providing a truck load of mulch and a wheel barrow

Thanks for the CFC Lightbulb recycling: Gisela Merker, Karen Marie Schroeder and Karen Long

Gratitude for Dimond Friends from Woodpark/Age Song

Thanks to Karen Marie Schroeder for updating our banking account & funding system with Bank of America

Thanks to Gisela Merker for taking the minutes at our February meeting.

New Secretary Process: Chris Woodside volunteered to be the meeting note taker.

Dimond Branch Updates:

Welcome to Ashley Bonifacio, our new Teen Services Librarian I

Alison Bowman was permanently reassigned to Martin Luther King Jr. Branch this month

Oakland City funding of libraries-update: Karen reported about the current city funding situation for public libraries. Measure Q funds are supporting 60% of the library budget, and this leaves a \$2 million dollar per year budget deficit. The city council has agreed to increase its financial support in the city budget for the libraries until 2017. Library advocates would like to place a library parcel tax on the ballot soon, but Mayor Schaaf has requested a delay because she would like to place an infrastructure bond issue on the ballot instead. She has made a commitment to support increased city funding for libraries through the 2017-19 budget cycle. Library advocates would still like to request some library funding and library infrastructure funding through 2 current possible sources: proposed development impact fees and the infrastructure bond issue. More detailed information is available in the 2016 Annual Report of the Library Advisory Commission to the Life Enrichment Committee of the city council.

April building issues: 1. part of the roof damaged and ceiling tiles fell down (rain damage) . 2. The broken large high front windows (vandalism). Sarah reported that both the roof and the window have been repaired or replaced. The staff did have to close the library early when the broken window glass endangered patrons. The group discussed how Dimond Library Friends might help with the window vandalism—an on-going problem. We offered to purchase a video surveillance camera for the front entrance area and improved lighting perhaps with a motion sensor or night lighting. Sarah will consult with library administration but was appreciative of the offer.

Mosaic mural proposal –Debbie Koppman, a well-known local artist, would like to create a mosaic on the outside front of the library in the garden/walkway section. She has talked to library staff about possible themes. She will be asking for some funding from FODL and other local organizations since the city cannot fund public art on city buildings.

Remodel Updates: New start date is October, 2016. Project should go out to bid in March. Library will be closed for an estimated 3 months. New furniture fundraising: Sara Dubois is waiting for the final costs of the proposed new furniture and a firm schedule for the remodeling as she is planning an online fundraising campaign primarily during the library closure. We should have more details at our August meeting.

Calendar: Upcoming Closures

Tuesday, May 31 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday

Tuesday, July 5 in observance of Independence Day

Teen Advisory Board Report: 4 members of the TAB and their new advisor, Ashley Bonafacio, reported on their latest activities. They are in the middle of creating large post-it action figure art in the front windows of the library. Ashley is also planning an on-going teen program after school with some new video games and other activities.

Dimond Friends Updates:

Volunteer needs: Karen will also send out email invitations everyone about these activities several weeks before each of them. Thanks to the people who volunteered to help on the following projects at our meeting.

- June/July **library garden clean up**—tree pruning & ivy removal. We may want to hire an arborist to help with the tree pruning.
- **Oakland Book Festival** on Sunday, May 22 @ City Hall – 2 hour shifts. 2 library tables: FOPL and OPL Advocates. Katherine Sterbenc, Chairperson of the Library Advisory Commission, will coordinate this program.
- **Dimond Picnic in the Park** on Sunday, July 17- need to staff Dimond Library Outreach table (will send out request for volunteers about 3 weeks ahead)
- **Monthly CFC light bulb recycling** – take to Hazardous Waste Disposal.

Music Lending Library- Robin Goodfellow proposed setting up a musical instrument lending library and also a beginning sheet music lending library to support local young musicians (or adult musicians). She has some instruments and sheet music that she would donate, and she believes other local musicians might do likewise. The group liked the concept, but had questions about the cost, staffing, maintenance and organization of a program like this. Sarah stated that she would be happy to accept donated piano or guitar sheet music as the library gets requests for this. She will talk to the library administration about Robin's idea: how big it might be, where would be the best location, etc.

Free Book Bin issues/mess in front of library: Daphne Parson expressed her concern about the dumping and frequent messiness of the free book bin area in the outside front of the library. Group discussed this since it is an ongoing problem. We proposed trying to get a sturdy book shelf to replace the bin, and larger more graphic signs about no dumping. Sarah said that she will discuss this with other branch managers who probably face similar issues for any good ideas. Group would like to discuss this again in the future.

Financial Report by Karen Marie Schroeder, Treasurer. See her separate report. Karen has updated FODL's account at the Bank of America so it is now an approved business account.

Current expenditures (pending)

- \$350 Supplement to adult book budget
- \$130 magazine subscriptions
- \$10 Trailhead DVD for Dimond branch
- \$50 new plants for garden
- \$500 Direct buy of high interest children's materials
- \$300 Coordinator of Chess Tournament in May
- \$1500 Summer Reading program performers
- \$300 Teen party or volunteer recognition

New Funding Requests:

- \$200 Stipend for Laxman Pranthi's Family Yoga program (2 sessions)
- \$250 Camera for children's programs
- \$150 Licensing fee for "This Changes Everything" film showing in June
- \$75 Prizes for Chess Tournament
- \$150 Video games for new Teen Game Day (starting in June)
- \$50 Art supplies for Teen display board
- \$100 Baby Sign Language program with Erin Carpenter (September)
- \$100 Adult Summer reading prizes
- \$100 Kids Summer Reading Program Raffle prizes for Dimond Branch

Total requested: \$1175 Group unanimously approved these expenditures.

Next quarterly meeting date: August 13

Meeting was adjourned at 12:28.