

## **Friends of Dimond Branch Library Minutes**

Saturday, May 12, 2018, 11am-12:30 pm

In attendance: Sandy Venning, Mary Schrader, Shahana Sarker, Elena Loera, Steve Perrier, Gen Katz, Karen Marie Schroeder, Tom Rose, Suzanne Knott and Karen Long. Ashleigh and the Teen Board briefly attended.

**Thanks** to the Dimond Branch Library friends...

1. Thanks for all of the Friends who “tabled” outreach for Measure D about 8 times: Mary Schrader, Sharon Lawless, Karen Marie Schroeder, Hal Briar, Madeleine Briar, Chris Woodside, Ilsan, Darshan Anant, Dick Kolbert, Suzanne Knott and Karen Long. Gen Katz had a question about the public response to the outreach tabling. Participants said that library patrons were generally very positive with a few concerned about increased taxes.
2. Thanks to all the Friends who helped on the Library Garden Cleanup & Mulch morning: Sandy Venning, Hal Briar, Madeleine Briar, Chris Woodside, Hayward Blake and Karen Long.
3. Thanks to all of the Friends who brought food for Mary Schrader’s retirement celebration at Dimond Library; Darshan Anant, Karen Marie Schroeder, Daphne Parson, Dick & Nancy Kolbert, and Karen Long. Mary Schrader read her thank you note to the group.

**Secretary Process:** Shahana Sarkar volunteered to take notes during the meeting.

### **Dimond Branch Updates:**

Dimond Volunteer Appreciation on Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup> from 10-11 am. This is a new program for all library volunteers at all of the branches funded by Friends of Oakland Public Library. (FOPL)

Oakland Library’s Annual Report on programs/funding is available. It is available in paper and online. It gives numbers and statistics but also includes the human element and new programs.

### **Staff updates:**

Alice McCain is retiring on June 1. We will be getting a new full time Library Assistant in June. Alice has been especially helpful with clients needing computer and ebook assistance. A new volunteer on Saturday mornings has offered to help with some of this need.

**Library Programs:** May Calendar and summer highlights

**Bystander Training** on 5/31 at the Main Library / this is training on how to act/react if there is some kind of problem near you. (Several members of library friends’ groups plan to attend)

**AARP Senior Driving program** in June. This program is funded by Dimond Friends. Since it’s popular and fills rapidly perhaps we should a 2<sup>nd</sup> class in the fall.

May 12 Berkeley Rep theater held a **docent talk** on the upcoming revival of *Angels in America*.

June 23 Miriam is organizing a **Transgender Story Telling day** during a Gay Pride celebration with Drag Queens and Kings telling stories in Dimond Park. Last year's event had more than 300 participants.

A **Mobile outreach program offering health checkups and assistance in applying for food stamps** for low income people was held recently. Only a few attended, but this was a first time effort.

**Teen Advisory Board update:** The entire Teen Board joined our meeting for a few minutes. They thanked us for our support of their running/walking in the Oakland Marathon. (5 K section). The majority of this hardworking group are high school seniors and will be graduating in June. They shared the impressive list of universities that they will be attending. Congratulations!

The **Teen Center** in the library is getting more use with more activities. Free comics were given away on free comic book day. The Teen Board sponsored a blackout poetry contest. To get more entries, they invited other branch teens to participate. They now are displaying the entries in the front display case for a vote.

#### **Dimond Library Friends' Updates:**

- **Measure D Parcel Tax** for increased city library funding

June 2 tabling at Dimond Branch (reminding people to vote!) 12-2 before the election

Other ideas???? Writing letters to Editors/newspapers??? Sharon Lawless did write a letter to the editor. Gen Katz shared her experiences in writing multiple letters to the editor.

Talk to your friends/neighbors and tell them how important passage is.

- **Keeping Library Entrance Clean:** asking volunteers to take 1 day per week (when library is open) to clean up front entrance of library like every Tuesday. (Move books & stuff to recycling in rear or near garbage can on street). Karen will send out a request for additional help to all members.

Sarah will also put out additional clear signage about NO Dumping in front.

- Update on **Dimond Library Garden**- Karen purchased lantanas (yellow and lavender) for the center of the new garden section plus a very tough ground cover (Diamandia). She has planted these and is giving them some extra watering to get started. Hayward Blake and Steve Perrier are working on removing the large front bush by the Vet clinic next door that has hidden unwanted activity in the garden. This is at Sarah's request. (and was done on 5/15).

**Report on bathroom upgrades:** new mirrors/tables in both bathrooms as suggested by Carrie Campbell and others. Sarah will put in a request to public works for an installation of new mirrors in the bathrooms (which we will probably purchase). She says she can purchase two small tables with some of the remaining furniture renovation money.

**July 22<sup>nd</sup> picnic in the park volunteers needed:** This is the Circus Bella/ Dimond community picnic. Karen will send out more information/sign ups about our library outreach table when more info is available. Probably 11:00 – 2:30 in Dimond Park. We discussed distributing special bookmarks as well as giving away free children’s books and library information. Shahana will look into special “seed” book marks that can grow flowers..

**Laurel Street Fair participation.** Karen & Sarah discussed this several months ago and decided that it was too much to do this summer. Group said they would like to participate next summer since Dimond Branch also represents the Laurel district. More planning would need to happen for this.

**Financial Report** by Karen Marie Schroeder, Treasurer

The group has \$21,277 in its bank account. \$6276 is in pending-approved but not spent yet. (usually not all is used). Karen Marie also reported that the cash box for our book sale in the library had been broken. Oddly the money was not taken. Shahana volunteered to research cash boxes to try to obtain a sturdier one.

### **Pending**

\$150 Games for Branch

\$58 Art supplies for teen programs

\$500 Garden consultation and new plants for front garden and walkway

\$2500 Mural by Deb Koppman

\$1308 wifi hotspots (problem with supplier)

\$25 Gift Card to Laurel Books (Blackout Poetry Contest)

\$350 Summer Teen Volunteer Party

\$100 Additional Summer Passport Prizes

\$1600 Summer Reading Performers

**Total: \$6276**

### **New requests**

\$90 Gift cards for participants in Middle School Meet Up on 5/22

\$100 Posters for Children’s Area

\$160 Flavor Brigade ice cream for Teen Night Out, 8/7 (same night as National Night Out)  
*includes two 4-Gallon tubs (120 servings) and service fee*

\$100 Raffle Prizes for Teen Night Out

\$100 Adult summer reading prizes

\$330 Teen T-Shirt Screen Printing Workshop w/ Angie Wilson (Oakland Handmade)  
includes facilitation fee, supplies and shirts for 15 participants

\$160 SAT Test Prep Books *\$20 / book (8 students)* Group requested a larger program for more students if needed. Training is being offered for free from UC Berkeley EAOP program. Also 4 classes will be held at Dimond Library and 4 at the Main Library.

\$200 Healthy snacks in library for kids and teens this summer

\$400 Oaktoberfest performer

\$1000 Branch furniture (leftover from FOPL furniture fund for remodel).

**TOTAL \$2890**

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- |                           |                |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Research more SAT prep | Sarah Hodgson  |
| 2. Research Bookmarks     | Shahana Sarkar |
| 3. Research cash boxes    | Shahana Sarkar |
| 4. Garden Projects        | Karen Long     |
| 5. Front Entry Cleanup    | Karen Long     |
| 6. Measure D support      | Everyone!!!!   |

**Next meeting date: Saturday, August 11 at 11 am**