

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

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

**In attendance:** Karen Long, Mary Schrader, Sue Yascolt, Amy Johnson, Trish Elliott, Gen Katz, Karen Lundquist, Shahana Sarkar, Margaret Bray, Steve Perrier, Sarah Hodgson (Branch Manager), Carolyn Vallergera and Karen Marie Schroeder.

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

Thanks to so many people who helped to pass the **Measure D Library parcel tax**: Mary Schrader who kept us organized, Suzanne Knott, Karen Marie Schroeder Chris Woodside, Madeleine & Hal Briar, Elena Loera, Karen Long and Hayward Blake ( apologies if I forgot someone!!)

Thanks to the staff & Friends to helped to give away free children's books at the **Family Pride Celebration** in Dimond Park in June: Miriam Meddow (staff), Elena Loera, Daphne Parson, Amy Johnson (with Max) and Karen Long.

Special thanks to the **front of the library clean-up crew** who have been helping weekly for 3 months now: Karen Marie Schroeder, Helen Krayenhoff, Tom Rose, Suzanne Knott, Margaret Bray, and Chris Woodside. Sarah Hodgson says the entry area is much improved.

More thanks to those (staff & Friends) who helped with Dimond Library outreach at the **Dimond Picnic in the Park** in July: Elena Loera, Jean & Chuck Busch, Chris Woodside and her little "sister", Mary Schrader, Karen Long, Miriam Meddow (staff) and Sarah Hodgson (staff).

Always thanks to David Weaver who runs our ongoing Friends' book sale and Karen Marie Schroeder who brings home made snacks to our meetings. Karen Long takes care of the garden.

**Secretary Process:** Mary Schrader volunteered to take minutes during the meeting.

### **Dimond Branch Updates: (from Sarah Hodgson)**

**Dimond Circulation highest at OPL** for third month in a row! 65-75% of patrons are using self-check-out machines, Staff is short 1 full time position so they are very busy now.

**Dimond Volunteer Appreciation** on Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup> sponsored by the Friends of the Oakland Public Library was successful with participants from Dimond Library Friends, Friends of the Oakland Public library, tax preparation volunteers, etc. Snacks from La Farine bakery were provided.

**Measure D news-** the book collection budget has already increased especially the children's collection. About 65% of books circulated from Dimond Library are children's books. The extension of library hours will come in the late fall or early next year.

**Staff Updates:** Please welcome Friederike Droegemueller, Dimond's new full time Library Assistant.

**Permanent Part Time Library Assistant vacancy** – this 30 hour per week position will probably be filled in the fall as the city hiring takes time.

**Library Programs:** August Calendar and Fall highlights: Sarah Hodgson review the two page list of library activities for August and mentioned several new ones for the fall. A meditation book author, and a Kidney donor specialist/author will both be making presentations in the near future. Also there will be a new SAT prep program starting in Sept/Oct for high school students. The Friends are providing the workbooks for the program

**Status of Library mural project:** Deb Koppman is still working with the city and other funding sources to fund the library mural. The Friends' contribution is not yet needed (but we're showing it in our pending account.)

**Overflowing library book returns outside:** Karen Long noted that by Tuesday midday the two outside library book returns are full to overflowing. She wondered if it would be possible to get a 3<sup>rd</sup> book return that is needed for the high circulation rate. Extended library hours may solve this problem too.

**Teen Advisory Board update:** Two Teen Board Members reported on their recent & current activities.

1.) They sponsored a successful **Teen Night Out** for the National Night Out Program last week with about 45 participants (22 teens and 23 adults). A skate board group raffled off skate boards, prizes were given, and the Dimond Library Teen Radio program was held outside. Lots of T-shirts and gift cards were distributed too. The Teen Board representatives and the Teen Librarian (Ashleigh) were happy about the program.

2.) Tomorrow the group is holding a field trip to San Francisco to participate in an escape room program (solving puzzles to escape).

Karen Long asked for Teen Board assistance in making creative signage or posters for outside the front entry of the library to discourage dumping of books & materials. They will discuss this at their next regular meeting.

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

**Brief report on Friends' Outreach activities this quarter** including Measure D campaign outreach, distributing free books & participating in the Gay Family Pride event sponsored by the library and Dimond Park Recreation Center in June, staffing a library outreach table at the Dimond Picnic in the Park in July, and the ongoing campaign to keep the front of the library cleaned up.

**Evaluation & update on the Front of the library cleanup project**—Karen Long asked for feedback about the front of the library cleanup project in which volunteers help 1 day per week to keep the front entry way clean. Sarah Hodgson said that the library staff greatly appreciates the program and would like it to continue. Margaret Wray and Karen Marie Schroeder (both participants) described their activities and said that they could continue doing it. Karen Long would like to give all of these regular volunteers La Farine's Volunteer Recognition cards for free pastries/coffee at the bakery. Carolyn Vallerger said that

she would be glad to help with the program and would discuss it with Karen Marie Schroeder. Karen will contact the other participants about their involvement.

The subject of dumping (or donating) old encyclopedias came up because most of them are now outdated. Shahana Sarkar said that she was trying to decide what to do with her set, and she knew others had the same issue. Mary Schrader and Sarah Hodgson said it was possible to use old books to make book art. Other branches such as Rockridge have done this. The library staff will look into this when they have more time.

**9/29-30 Oaktoberfest:** Karen Long reported that our group has registered to have a library outreach table on Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup> of Oaktoberfest in the Dimond District. The 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the two day craft/beer festival will be donated to the Friends of the Oakland Library & OPL Advocates for their outreach efforts. Dimond Library Friends will fund a performer on the family stage in exchange for the booth at the Oaktoberfest. The Children's Librarian is working on this now. Karen will ask for volunteers 2-3 weeks ahead of the event.

**10/19 Big Branch Friends Network meeting** at Dimond – Sara Dubois is planning on holding a large Branch Friends' Network meeting for representatives from all of the Branch library friends' groups on Friday morning 10/19 at Dimond Library. We will be the host group. More info will be available later.

**Library Garden update:** The garden generally looks good now although there have been two plant thefts recently. She is still watering a few areas that get no irrigation.

Hayward Blake has removed oak seedlings in unwanted areas. He has also cleaned all of the sidewalk/parking lot areas.

Notice the newly planted area in front of the library—Karen Long has planted the outside area with very low growing plants that do not need much water.

Public works has done some side/parking lot cleanup. Thank you!

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

Her separate budget report shows all deposits and expenditures. The **remaining balance is \$19,275.24.**

### **Pending**

\$150 Games for Branch

\$100 Garden consultation and new plants for front garden and walkway

\$2500 Mural by Deb Koppman (unknown when this will be requested)

*\$1308 wifi hotspots- likely these will be bought centrally*

\$160 SAT Test Prep Books \$20 / book (8 students)

\$400 Oaktoberfest performer

\$1000 Branch furniture

**\$4310 total pending** (*does not include wifi hotspots*)

***\$14,965.24 remaining*** in Library Friends account

### **New requests**

\$750 for 14 sessions \*\*\*Homework Help -- (once weekly)

**OR \$1400 for 27 sessions (twice weekly)**

\$50 Supplies for Origami club (new)

\$50 Supply of Lego figurines for monthly Lego program

\$50 Storytime basket for Children's Librarian

\$100-\$150 Slap bracelet craft supplies for Oaktoberfest (activity and giveaway)

\$150 Teen Craft/Art Supplies & storage containers

\$100 Teen Program Snacks

\$250 Supplies for monthly Open Studio Program (Oct-Jan) (new program)

\$100 Keep Dimond Clean contribution to the Dimond Improvement Association (requested by Karen Marie Schroeder)

**Tutoring Funding:** The group discussed the recent tutoring pilot program which served a limited # of students but was also not publicized (due to OPL request). The children's librarian has requested a continuation for 27 sessions. The group decided to fund the more extensive 2x weekly tutoring for 1 hour with more publicity for the program and an evaluation of student progress/parent opinion at the end. After this 2<sup>nd</sup> pilot program, FODL will evaluate about any future tutoring funding proposals.

**\$2300 total for new requests.** This will leave a **budget balance of \$12, 665.24.**

**The Friends' group voted unanimously to support this budget request.**

**Next Quarterly Meeting: Saturday, November 10 @ 11:00 am. Please mark your calendars!**

