**Friends of Dimond Branch Library Minutes**

Saturday, November 10, 2018, 11am-12:30 pm

In Attendance: Hayward Blake, Steve Perrier, Darshan Anant, Daphne Parson, Elena Loera, Sandy Venning, Gen Katz, Karen Marie Schroeder, Sarah Hodgson, Ashleigh Bonifacio, and Karen Long.

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

Thanks to all of the **Oaktoberfest library outreach volunteers**: Hal and Madeleine Briar, Margaret Bray, Karen Lindquist, Darshan Anant, Sue Yascolt, Gisela Merker, Trish Elliott, and Shahana Sarkar. Thanks also to all of the Dimond Library staff who also volunteered especially to Miriam Medow who taught us all how to make slap bracelets with the kids. Thanks also to Hayward Blake for cleaning out the parking lot and garden beforehand.

Thanks to Amy Johnson for her volunteer work on helping high school seniors with their **college essays**. Thanks also to Amy for volunteering to be on the City Library Commission.

Thanks to the weekly front of **library clean up crew**: Karen Marie Schroeder, Carol, Helen Krayenhoff, Tom Rose, Suzanne Knott, Margaret Bray and Chris Woodside. The library staff greatly appreciates your anti-dumping/clean up activities.

Thanks to Steve Perrier, Gen Katz, Karen Marie Schroeder and Karen Long for attending & representing our Friends’ group at the recent **Branch Friends Network meeting**.

Special thanks to Paula Kimbro for her **ongoing financial support** for our activities. We greatly appreciate it! The group recommended sending a thank you card to Paula Kimbro signed by our members at our next meeting.

**Secretary Process**: Karen Marie Schroeder took minutes during the meeting.

**Dimond Branch Updates:**

**Measure D updates: proposed extended hours for OPL**. Sarah Hodgson shared the tentative proposed new increased library hours for the branch and main libraries. Most of the branches would increase their hours by 12. 5 hours per week. Dimond Library would be open on Mondays from 10 – 5:30 and on Wednesday nights. The proposed changes would not happen until next February at the earliest. 81st Ave Library would be open 7 days per week as would the main library. About 150 new positions would be needed to staff the increased hours. New staff would be hired and current part-time staff would be considered for full-time positions.

**New Security Guard and some recent safety issues at the branch**. Sarah Hodgson said the new security guard has been very helpful, but there are some continuing security/mental health issues.

**Staff updates:**

Dimond currently has a Permanent Part Time Library Assistant vacancy

The new Library Director selection process is underway. The library staff is hopeful that the new director will be announced by the end of this year.

PPT and PT Library Aide recruitment for OPL ended 11/8.

**Library Programs:** November Calendar and fall highlights:

Updates on **Scientific Adventures program and Computer help** at the branch. It was suggested that the types of scientific experiments/activities be highlighted in the promotional flyers. Two sessions of computer help are available by half hour appointment on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings. If you want help, sign up in advance.

**Teen Advisory Board update:**

Ashleigh Bonifacio (teen librarian) reported on the summer activities of the teen board and explained that many of the members are now in college. She has two continuing and 4 new active members of the board. They will report at our next meeting.

**SAT program report back**: This was a very successful Saturday program run by UC Berkeley outreach students for 10 sessions. 5 @ Dimond Library and 5 @ the Main Library. About 30 students attended most of the sessions. Free SAT prep books were paid for by our Friends group. The group said that they would like to sponsor it again next year.

**Dimond Library Friends’ Updates:**

**Oaktoberfest report back**: Karen reported that our group had 10 volunteers for 2 hour periods at Oaktoberfest. A member of the library staff was also participating most of the time. We continued to give away free children’s books and library information. The craft activity was making slap bracelets which the kids (and parents) loved. The musician that we sponsored was excellent and was very popular. The second day FOPL and OPL advocates staffed the library booth with general library information and support. Group would definitely like to participate again next year and possibly also in the Laurel Street Fair in August.

**Volunteer needs**:

1. Front of Library Clean-up activity—changes? The library staff would greatly appreciate if volunteers continue to keep the front entry of the library clean and also pick up trash. Volunteers will get La Farine Volunteer reward cards at the library. We will need to ask for more volunteers. Daphne Parson will continue her unofficial clean up efforts.
2. Library Garden clean up (pruning, ivy removal, mulch distribution, clearing library exit) on Friday, December 7. Karen Long will ask for volunteers about 2 weeks ahead.
3. Holiday cookies for December 18 special holiday evening story time. We will need volunteers to make cookies for this and also a few hosts to help with the program. Karen Marie Schroeder offered to help coordinate the program.

**Library Garden update**: Irrigation system was turned off for 6-8 weeks. Karen requested that it be turned on again. She still needs to hand water sections. Trish Elliott donated a number of succulents from her planters. Need group clean up-see above.

**501©3 status.** Friends of Dimond Library currently uses Friends of the Oakland Library (FOPL) as its 501©3 sponsor as a tax exempt organization. The IRS has recently simplified the filing process both the initial filing and the yearly verification. The group discussed the advantages and disadvantages of changing the current system. No decision was made.

**Financial Report** by Karen Marie Schroeder, Treasurer in a separate report

**Current balance: $23,821.84**

**Pending**

$2500 Mural by Deb Koppman

$1000 Branch furniture

$150 Teen Craft/Art Supplies & storage containers

$100 Teen Program Snacks

$250 Supplies for monthly Adult Open Studio Program (now called Creative Crafts for Adults) (Oct-Jan)

**$4000 total pending**

**New requests**

$1000for adult collection of books/music by Oakland artists

$200 for two Making Products with Natural Ingredients programs

$200 for a refresh of branch toys

$30 for noisemaker craft supplies

$100 for Slime Club supplies (February-May)

$1500 for Summer Reading performers (earlier request than usual)

$400 Nintendo Switch Bundle w/ Smash Bros Ultimate Download

$80 Two Switch Controllers

**$ 3510 total for new requests. These new requests were approved by a unanimous vote.**

**$ 7510 total for new and pending requests**

**Next meeting date: Saturday, February 23 at 11 am**