

Minutes - Library Board Meeting
April 2, 2008

Called to order at 7:00 pm. Present: Curt Ledford, Jan Love, Barb Bingham, Holly Keen, Alice Johnstone, David Kreiss-Tomkins, Gerry vonRekowski, and Cooper Gale

Introductions were made for Cooper Gale's benefit. Cooper is the Teen Advisory Board representative.

Since the Feb. 6 meeting was unofficial, no minutes needed approval.

Old business:

Library calendars: Place on sale at the Library; distribute free copies to people interested in the Friends group; need count of numbers left; recycle after the May meeting.

Alaska Quarterly Review: Gerry reported that the library does have some older issues and that the subscription info. and request will be given to Cheryl for ordering.

Following the thread of ordering materials, Curt questioned why so few of the titles on the NY Times best sellers list were available at Kettleson. Gerry felt that it was due to the extended absences of the key people doing the ordering and should change in the next weeks.

Friends of the Library promotional brunch: The Board felt that the idea of a brunch was not a good, plausible idea and will be dropped.

Sitka Reads: moved to the fall.

New business:

Revitalizing the Friends of the Library group was the main discussion under new business. Alice said that a list of possible jobs for the Friends needs to be compiled, i.e. researching valuable sale books; Jan said there needs to be a way to attract people with both short-term and long-term projects; Gerry suggested polling staff for possible projects; Holly mentioned a simple volunteer questionnaire that she had seen that had a unique way of extracting talents and skills and will try to find it; all agreed that the group needs its own leader and that the group needs to be independent of the Library Board.

Curt strongly felt that the idea of a downtown used bookstore run by a revitalized Friends of the Library group should be pursued. He had already discussed the idea with Jeff Budd who felt he could help with it as part of his job. The hardest question was where? It was agreed that a downtown location is necessary. Brainstorming is needed to find a location. Jan wondered if the store is something for the Board to set up and pass on to the Friends, or to let the Friends have it from the start.

Thursday, May 8, 7:00 pm in the Maksoutoff Room of the Centennial Bldg., was set as the initial meeting for the future Friends of the Library group. It will also be the May Board meeting. The Board will

meet at 6:30 pm with the Friends meeting immediately following. The only agenda item will be revitalizing the Friends. Attendees will be given free library calendars. Holly will do a Sentinel ad beginning May 1. Curt will collect lists of possible jobs/projects for the Friends and have them compiled for the meeting. All Board members are to bring snacks.

Cooper reported on the Teen Advisory Board (TAB). He reported on their lock-in and election results. He said their goal is to get more teens involved with the library. Upcoming activities are the Poet's Café, Sunday April 27 (the library will close for this event) and a future radio drama program.

David asked if anyone had listened to the forum for library boards that Tiffany Bryner had sent emails to Board members about. No one had, but they appreciated the information.

Curt asked for an update on the teen behavior problem. Gerry reported that problems are remarkably down since moving the couch out of the teen area.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.