

Friends of the Almaden Library
Draft of May 25, 2010 Post-Sale and Annual Meeting Minutes

Linda Spencer called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. People attending the meeting were Linda Spencer, President and Membership Chairman; Nancy Koppel, Vice President; Liesel Wilson, Treasurer; Barbara Beswetherick, Secretary; Pam Crider, Almaden Library Branch Manager; Vince Tarpey, Library Commissioner; and member Bob Durbeck.

Linda presented the President's and Membership Reports. Total membership is now 122, after one cancellation. Donations of \$250 have been received so far in 2010. Unsold books were boxed at the end of the book sale and saved for Ann Marcolini and other Friends members from the Santa Teresa Branch Library to pick up and include in their book sale to be held one or two weeks after our book sale. Books left over at the end of that book sale will be sent to King Friends. King Friends will send us packing boxes when we need them, so we no longer have to be concerned about holding onto our empty boxes. Because the Santa Teresa Friends wanted our unsold books, we did not need to ask the Salvation Army to pick up our unsold books as was reported in the last minutes.

Linda is setting up to list books for sale online, special books for sale at amazon.com (collectable or autographed) and textbooks for sale at abebooks.com. Liesel and Linda went to Bank of America to ask about getting a separate account for online selling, but the bank would charge us a monthly fee for a separate account, so it was decided to use the current checking account so as not to incur this extra charge. Vince Tarpey brought up the possibility of using a scanner to enter each ISBN book number. Linda may consider purchasing one if entering the numbers by hand is too slow or error-prone. Textbooks later than 2005 may be valuable and sell well online. Vince said that he is within several weeks of being termed out of his three-year position as Library Commissioner.

Linda had sent the minutes from the February pre-sale meeting to the board members as an email attachment so that they could be read online, and the minutes were also read at this meeting by others present. The minutes were approved as written.

Liesel presented the financial report. The April book sale netted \$3,127.80. The current checking account balance is \$12,655.03. The average of recent monthly lobby sales is between \$500 and \$600. The total of lobby book sales since the building opened in 2006 has been \$20,154.55. Liesel reported receiving one additional donation of \$1,000 from a member; she sent a thank-you letter on April 8, 2010. That brings the total of donations in 2010 to \$1,250.

Pam passed out a chart of the branch libraries in the city showing pairings of days and hours which may go into effect, possibly by July 1st, if the San Jose City Council puts into effect the budget cuts currently under consideration. Libraries might be open on a staggered Monday, Wednesday, Friday or Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday schedule according to similar checkout volume, with librarians and staff members working at two libraries with similar volumes on the alternate days. Pam has already passed out pink slips to one third of the staff at Almaden who might lose their jobs if these budget cuts under consideration do take place. Almaden

Community Center is considered a hub for District 10, so the Community Center will remain open with possibly no cut in hours. Pam thanked the Almaden Friends for our support in trying to influence the City Council with the postcard drive telling passing patrons about the possibility of library days and hours being reduced. Much of the meeting time was spent with Pam explaining the possible library changes due to budget cuts and how branches might be affected.

Pam Crider's list for ways that she would like to use the funds from the Friends had three sections: 1) staff reimbursements for special programs, 2) coming programs and equipment, and 3) furniture. The staff reimbursements of \$293 were unanimously approved. The coming programs included the Summer Reading Celebration and monthly programs; the equipment was \$100 for additional Wii games and necessary equipment; the total for this section, \$3500, was also unanimously approved. The third section, furniture, was a suggested replacement of a broken children's "interactive cube". Pam said that a staff investigation into a more sturdy cube to replace the one which had broken found a very good one from Burgeon Group for \$5000. Pam said that this large expense might be better saved to consider at a later time when city funds were not in such short supply, and that these funds might be better used to add to the library's collection. The Friends officers voted unanimously against spending the \$5000 for the children's cube at this time because we agreed that the money would be better spent on programs and the collection at present. Areas of the library collection which can be increased with this \$5000 will be at Pam's discretion in the coming months.

Officers for fall 9/2010 to 8/2011 were voted to remain the same except for the position of secretary. Barbara Beswetherick announced that she would be leaving that position as of the August 31st end of the fiscal year, and so that position will need to be filled between now and then. Linda will announce in the coming newsletter that we need a volunteer for this position. The three officers continuing through August 2011 are:

Linda Spencer – President & Membership Chairman
Nancy Koppel – Vice President
Liesel Wilson – Treasurer

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Beswetherick, Secretary

June 26, 2010: Addendum to May 25, 2010 Meeting Minutes:

Sharon Dunn has volunteered to serve as Secretary during the fiscal year beginning on September 1, 2010. The four current officers voted online via email in June, 2010, and elected Sharon unanimously to the position of Secretary of the Friends of the Almaden Library. With this addition, the four officers for the fiscal year September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2011 are:

Linda Spencer, President/Membership Chairman
Nancy Koppel, Vice-President
Liesel Wilson, Treasurer
Sharon Dunn, Secretary

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Spencer, President