

Friends of the Almaden Library March 3, 2009 - Pre-Sale Meeting Minutes

Monica Bellizzi called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. Present were Monica Bellizzi, President; Linda Spencer, Vice President and Membership Chairman; Liesel Wilson, Treasurer; Barbara Beswetherick, Secretary; Pam Crider, Library Branch Manager; and one additional Friends member.

Linda reported that we now have 114 members. There were 112 members as of September, 2008. One member joined before the fall book sale, one joined during the book sale, one worked at the book sale and joined the following week, and one was deleted for non-payment of dues.

Liesel gave the treasurer's report. There is a \$6,634 balance in the checkbook. Lobby book sales totaled \$535 in January and \$503 in February. Liesel set up a table in the library lobby to sell the remainder of T-shirts and was very successful in selling all but a few. She reimbursed \$40 to the Seniors Association for their share of the initial joint venture investment in the T-shirts. She will email Wilma Hashii about ordering more \$4 book bags. Liesel is keeping separate lists of the various sale item totals.

Barb read the minutes of the post-sale November 2008 meeting. They were approved as read.

Pam gave her library report about the multi-cultural program and great books for at-risk teens; we allocated \$200 for 10 copies of the book "Black and White." Ed led the first discussion of that book. Pam purchased a digital camera for the library for \$190 and will be purchasing the Wii Game. The Silicon Valley Reads program, for which we gave \$250, will feature Brian Copeland, the author of the book, "Not a Genuine Black Man." There is difficulty getting copies of the book for the evening when Brian will speak at Almaden, so he will only sign the books that people bring; there will be no books for sale at the event. Note: books were obtained later, so there were copies sold at the Almaden talk.

Pam noticed that the Senior Net program had a banner over the front building entrance which did not have the Parks and Recreation logo on it, so she took the opportunity to request that we be allowed to have made and hang a similar banner just before each of our book sales. The Senior Net group had theirs made at NBN Sports on Parrot Street in San Jose. It cost around \$150 plus tax. Liesel and Linda will contact Terry Mark at NBN Sports about designing a banner with an appropriate design, possibly with the open book logo which is on our book sale bookmarks. Pam thought it might be possible to have our banner put up when the crew takes down the Harvest Festival banner, a week or two prior to our book sale. Pam will present her wish list at the post-sale meeting in May. She mentioned that there is a Web site about Internet filtering at libraries, with opinions both for and against filtering. The site's URL is booksnotfilters.com.

Monica presented an overview of a conference which she attended entitled "The Impact of Informational Technology." Several noted speakers from Stanford, etc., gave dissertations on the importance of updating ideas pertinent to the electronic wave of the future and how the

storing of information is changing, mainly digitally, i.e., searches in libraries, archives, and special collections. Monica's husband is a member of the Computer History Museum, and she will investigate an institutional membership for the Friends to possibly sponsor for the library.

Linda indicated that she needs the IRS number for tax-exempt donation receipts. It was suggested we could have a brochure at the front desk with information for those wanting to make donations to the Friends which could include memorial donations in a will or trust. We may also be able to apply for grants now that we are tax-exempt.

Linda handed out the list of the book sale preparations. She has changed the Saturday work shifts because we no longer have to set up sale items outside on Saturday mornings as we did at the prior library building. The Saturday shifts will run from 9 to 11 AM, then 11 AM to 1 PM, 1 to 3 PM, and 3 to 5:30 PM. She also passed out the posters for the book sale, with Liesel putting them up at Safeway center; Barb at PW; June Yamano at Lucky; Pam at Almaden Cafe; and Monica, at her office and Charlie Cheesecake. Linda also had a box of bookmarks with the April book sale date. Some will be put at the front desk, in the Lobby Sale Area, and at the checkout machines in the library. She also has ordered more bookends. Teens will help set up on Friday afternoon starting at 2:30 PM and will also help Bob Durbeck set up the flags and signs outside early on Saturday morning. It was agreed that balloons will be omitted this time to see if there is any difference in activity. Pizzas will be ordered for teen and Friends volunteers' lunch. Barb and Liesel will do the thank you notes for volunteers' help.

Linda mentioned that there will be an All Friends meeting at the Willow Glen Branch Library on March 21st. No one from Almaden Friends besides Linda will be going. The following All Friends meeting will be in June at the Alviso Branch Library. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 PM.

March 11, 2009

Addendum to minutes of March 3rd pre-sale meeting

(This will also be included in the November 2009 minutes.)

Last year a state grant was given to two branches of the San Jose Public Library, Tully and Alum Rock, to study and update our signage standards with a flat screen TV displaying continuous Power Point slide shows listing upcoming library events. With these Power Point shows having great success, branch library managers have now been asked to approach Friends groups at each branch to fund this large ticket item, \$840, since the branch libraries do not have enough money in their budgets. Pam did not receive this request in time for our March 3rd meeting, but needs to reply by April 3rd to meet the deadline of fiscal year end. Because our post-sale meeting will not be until May 5th, we decided to vote by email. The vote was a unanimous "yes" by all four officers to give the \$840 for the TV to the Almaden Branch Library.