

Friends of the University Libraries, Board Meeting, March 2, 2009, East Hall

Present: Regina Buckner, Sharon Carlson, Greg Fitzgerald, Kathleen Garland-Rike, Randle Gedeon, Laurel Grotzinger, Norman Jung, David Sheldon, Susan Steuer, Beth Timmerman, Michael Whang, Joyce Zastrow.

Welcome/Announcements The meeting was called to order at 2:06. Garland-Rike welcomed everybody.

Approval of Agenda The Agenda was approved as presented. (Carlson/Jung)

Approval of Minutes The minutes were approved as corrected. (Fitzgerald/Sheldon)

New Business

Treasurer's Report

Buckner distributed the treasurer's report. Since the last meeting, there has been some activity. The University Foundation has distributed donated funds. The Friends received \$600. It is reflected under memberships. Buckner has not received details yet but suspects they are mainly renewals. The membership total is \$3,329.07 for this fiscal year. We also received a payment from Better World Books for \$391.16. That is within the book sale reimbursement amount. There were expenditures of \$200 for the Book Arts tour. There was also an invoice for \$144 for *Gatherings*. She is anticipating that we will receive a renewal for FOLUSA.

Sheldon noted that one or two people at the Book Arts event indicated they had not received renewals. Sheldon suggested going down the membership list and sending another notice to those who have not renewed. It was suggested that in order to save on postage that we put membership renewal information with the flier for the spring event. It was also suggested that all faculty and staff be approached about membership. Email distribution lists could be used.

Committee Reports

Website – Michael Whang was invited to discuss the website. Whang reported on the changes he made on the page. It includes a calendar but he also highlighted the Paper Making Demonstration and Tour. Everybody liked the new look. We would like to have upcoming events more visible. It was suggested that the banner activation period be shortened. Whang will look into this. Whang asked for submissions to be sent to lib-web@wmich.edu. Garland-Rike suggested putting 2008-2009 events on the website. It will show our past events. Sheldon suggested having past events with links to previous fliers. It was suggested having a link to the Friends of the University Libraries on the main webpage. Whang reported there is room. Whang will be out in May and asked for information early.

Events/PR - It was suggested to have a separate meeting for the annual meeting. It has traditionally been in April. President Dunn was suggested as a possible speaker. Buckner will ask Reish if he will contact President Dunn and ask him and Mrs. Dunn. Timmerman suggested

that information about an April meeting be provided to her as soon as possible. It was suggested that we may even plan the annual meeting in May. It will facilitate program planning.

Steuer suggested a fall event. There are two faculty members working on books about literature and dress. One is working with Edith Wharton and the other is finishing a book on Emily Dickinson. The faculty members have agreed to present in the fall.

Sheldon wondered if we will have another presentation on alternative energy to continue in our series.

It was also suggested that the Friends present a program of new additions to the Archives and Special Collections. Carlson and Steuer would be willing to do the program.

Nominating – Sheldon reported that Fitzgerald and Timmerman, and Garland-Rike have agreed to return. We still need three more. There are four or five possibilities. We need officers. We have a president. We will need a vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer. Steuer indicated that Jenni Walker would be willing to serve. Carlson will contact her. Grotzinger suggested that changing the liaison from the University Libraries could minimize the number of people needed.

Staff Awards – Application revisions have not been given to Michael Whang, but Greg Fitzgerald will get the information to Michael Whang in the next month. Grotzinger indicated that staff need to be encouraged. The University funds are less than what they once were and we anticipate there may be greater interest in funding from the Friends.

Writing for Gatherings

Garland-Rike asked for discussion about whether there is a need for a Board member to serve as liaison to the *Gatherings* editor. Grotzinger, the *Gatherings* editor, thinks the editor should be ex-officio, rather than having a liaison. Then the board has a direct tie to *Gatherings*. This would require a by-laws change. We concluded that a simple by-laws change only requires a vote of the Board. We could still say that some person on the Board itself would be responsible, but a by-law change ties the organization to *Gatherings*.

A motion was made and unanimously passed that the editor of *Gatherings* be an ex-officio member and that the by-laws be changed to reflect this. (Sheldon/Jung) Timmerman will ask webmaster Whang to make the change on the FOL website, conferring with Grotzinger on wording.

Old Business

Spring Event – Antique Books Road Show

Carlson will get a double roll of tickets. Buckner agreed to get a guest book. A cash box is needed. Carlson has talked to Gerow about refreshments and will get in touch with her about tables. She will help the Tillers with computer needs. Kathleen, David, Regina, and Sharon will

help with set-up and greeting people. Sheldon indicated he would distribute fliers. Carlson will get information to Gloria Tiller so Kazoo Books can publicize the event.

Sheldon reported that the Friends of the Kalamazoo Public Library are in touch with Larry Massie about a program about rare books. It was suggested that we may want to approach Massie in the future about continuing programming about rare books.

Trip to Gerald Ford Museum in Grand Rapids

Garland-Rike will talk to Fritz about this when she sees him later this week.

Kalamazoo Book Arts Field Trip - Recap

Steuer thought it went very well. The people had a great time. The people at the KBAC were very happy with the event. They think they will get more people as a result. Participants got to make paper. Eve Reid gave a wonderful presentation. There were about 15 people at the event. If we ever want to do this again, we may have to book six to eight months in advance. The availability is limited. A number of people attended who were not members. The spring break timing and cancellation of classes may have factored into the attendance.

Other Business

Meeting adjourned at 3:28.

The next board meeting will be April 6, 2009.