

Ridgefield Library Board Meeting
April 26, 2010

Present: Peter Authier; Peter Coffin (Chair); Barbara Dobbin; Lori Dowling; Karin Fallon; Thomas Hoban; Liz Kelly; Philip Lodewick; Mark Meachem; Brian Oren; Bob Payne; Cloris Pearson; Eileen Walker; Bill Wyman

Others present: Director Christina Nolan (ex-officio); Mary Rindfleisch; Leslie Vuilleumier; Carroll Brewster, Emeritus

Call to Order

Chairman Peter Coffin called the Board meeting to order on April 26, 2010 at 7:30 pm in the Dayton Program Room of the Ridgefield Library.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April 6, 2010 meeting were approved.

Chairman's Announcements

Peter Coffin announced that the "Celebrate the Stars", Library Social will be on May 14, 2010. A raise of hands indicated all would be present with the exception of Barbara Dobbin. The June Retreat is scheduled for June 21, 2010, one week earlier than usual, 4 - 8 pm. The Leir Center will be contacted for availability.

Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, including Activity Report and Executive Committee Report was made and approved.

Friends of the Library

Friends of the Library Paper Back Sale went well and some of the overload was cleared out. The upcoming Book Sale has over 50,000 books for sale. The Board was reminded about paying their Friends membership dues. Lori Dowling and Mary Rindfleisch have met with Melissa Brady and Bob Leavitt who are representing the Friends on the Building Improvement Committee. The Friends are giving input on what they'd like to have in their new space on the building plan.

Governance Committee

Examination of the Bylaws – Carroll Brewster and Director Nolan have been working on updating the bylaws so that they conform to our current operations and best practices. The last time the by-laws were updated was 8 years ago. A current copy of the bylaws with proposed changes was distributed to all board members. The committee is asking that members read this over carefully and send any suggestions/revisions to Brewster or Nolan for consideration. A document for consideration will be brought to the May meeting. Changes made to the bylaws must be passed at two consecutive meetings.

A new Slate of Officers was proposed at the last meeting. They will be elected at the June meeting.

Campaign Update

Campaign Chair Philip Lodewick has sent out letters asking specific individuals to become members of the Campaign Steering Committee or the Campaign Advisory Committee. There will be a joint meeting of both the Steering Committee and the Advisory Committee on Friday, April 30, 1 - 3 PM in the Dayton Program Room. This joint meeting will provide background on our project, the urgent need to address our deficiencies and inspiration for these folks to become involved. Philip Lodewick reported on a recent meeting with the party that had expressed interest in buying the former Webster Bank building. This potential purchaser is no longer interested. Campaign Gift Acceptance Policies were handed out to all. A list of the Campaign Steering Committee members and the Campaign Advisory Committee members will be shared. Philip Lodewick reminded the board members that 100% of the board members are expected to donate to this project. These donations should be in place before we begin to approach major donors for gifts. Some additional plans for donor cultivation were shared.

Building Improvement Committee

There will be an ad hoc group formed to address naming opportunities in the new building. These may be of interest to potential donors. Lori Dowling shared a document to illustrate upcoming phases of this project such as schematic design, design development, etc. along with the estimates for time/cost for each phase. This document will help us anticipate the upcoming A&E expenditures and to help target the best date for a referendum. The Board voted to commit to Leed Certification for the building project with a statement to be developed.

Communications Committee

A case statement document will be ready by early May. Betsy Brand and Marge Heminway provided a marketing document to the committee. This document is being re-worked to reflect a fundraising perspective. The newspaper ads to help educate the community are still being planned.

Development Committee

The Annual Appeal continues to get donations, even at the Guardian Society level. There are 67 Guardian Society members to date. The Appeal is at a 35% increase over last year at this time with the number of donors being the same. The Parent Appeal mailing is the last one scheduled to go out this year.

Karin Fallon thanked all who supported the Library at the Sarah's Wine Bar Event. This was a record attendance for a Sarah's Wine Bar event.

"Celebrate the Stars" Library Social is on May 14. There are still bartending slots open. The attendees list will go out to Board members prior to the event. Karin asked that every Board Member meet someone they do not know at that event. The start of the Paccadolmi Fund will be postponed until a later date.

Finance Committee

The budget is moving forward otherwise there is nothing to report.

As there was no further business, the Library Board adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Recorded and respectfully submitted,
Leslie Vuilleumier
Executive Assistant