

Friends of the Westside Library Minutes of the meeting 10/19/2010

In attendance: Theodore Odom, Dorothy Sacks, Rod Miller, Tho Tran Miller, Marie Ferguson, Terry Ruiz, Raymond Ruiz, Amit Joshi, Stacy Adams, Cathy Threadgill, Donna Royce, Dung Nguyen, Shelley Nguyen, Lisa Loranc, Karri Axtell, John Willis, Whitnie Simmons, Max Webb, Angel Webb, Leiming Li, Kimberly Delcambre, Kelly Kronfeld, Caroline Olinger, Julie Owens, Roosevelt Weeks, Tiffany Polar, Lissette Orrego

At 7:00 PM, Theo opened the meeting with introductions of the members present.

Copies of the meeting agenda were distributed to the members.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Dorothy Sacks and accepted as presented.

There was a discussion of the difference between a member-driven and a board-driven organization. This organization has been member-driven since it began and it was noted that the group members need to feel that they are being listened to and that they have a voice in all decisions of the officers. The tireless work of Geoff Tonini and other group members gave us the support of the city and county library boards over the two years during which the organization has existed. The substation which was established costs \$36,000 per year to operate and has been very successful.

Theo talked about the fact that in order to become a legal operating entity, we needed to have paperwork filled out and to approach the next phase of the project as if it were a political campaign. There were different opinions about how any formal board should be recruited and established. No resolution was reached and creating such a board was tabled until the January elections of permanent officers. Currently the executive committee is made up of the officers of the group. There is no Board of Directors at this time.

Terry Ruiz presented the new bylaws point by point. There were changes that need to be made before these can become official. Most of the articles and changes were approved by show of hands voting. There are two articles that need to be added: Disolution and Reorganization and Amendments. Terry will be working on that. The work will be posted to our yahoo group and/or emailed and revisions will be made. The final version should be ready for a vote at the next meeting on November 18.

Theodore Odom attended an October 4th workshop on grant writing and resources in San Antonio and gave a brief report on some moneys that may be available from the State of Texas. Amit Joshi is working on access to the website that was created by a former member, but has not heard back from him about access. Our website with the Brazoria County Library System has been updated to reflect the regular meeting times, but will need to be changed since we have changed this to the third Thursday of each month. Rod Miller mentioned that he was working on a possible architect's rendering for use at events. The consensus was that we should not do a rendering of a building that might not be built. Theodore Odom mentioned that he had researched the cost of land in the area where the proposed library would be built. There is TIRZ (Tax Increment and Reinvestment Zone) money that may possibly be used for the library and to explore this we need to invite the city to come to a meeting and speak about TIRZ.

All other agenda items were tabled until the next meeting. It was agreed that Robert's Rules of Order will be used at all future meetings.

Regular meetings will be held on the third Thursday of each month except in December. The annual meeting will be held in January 2011 and permanent officers will be elected at this time. Nominations for officers should be presented at the November meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, November 18th at 7 Pm at Nolan Ryan Jr. High, 11500 Shadow Creek Parkway, Pearland, TX

Respectfully Submitted
Dorothy Sacks, Secretary