

Friends of the Westside Library Minutes of the meeting 01/27/2011

In attendance: Dorothy Sacks, Rod Miller, Tho Tran Miller, Marie Ferguson, Terry Ruiz, Raymond Ruiz, Amit Joshi, Steve Zach, Anita Phipps, Mary Ruth Rodenbaugh, Cathy Threadgill, Sammy Lucario, Marilyn Schwettmann, Paula Baulch

At 7:10 PM, Rod Miller opened the meeting with introductions of the members present.

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

Nominations for officers were opened and elections were held. Raymond Ruiz was nominated for President, the nomination was seconded and he was elected with no dissenting votes. Dorothy Sacks was nominated for Secretary, the nomination was seconded and she was elected with no dissenting votes. Marie Ferguson was nominated for Treasurer, the nomination was seconded and she was elected with no dissenting votes. There was discussion of a nomination for Vice President, but the person chosen declined at this time due to constraints on his own time. It was decided to leave this position open until the next meeting.

Raymond Ruiz changed the order of the agenda so that we could discuss the bylaws next. We gave people time to read the draft. The draft was accepted with a minor revision changing the word audit to financial review in Article X, section 7 and section 8.

Dorothy was asked to get any documents related to our incorporation and non-profit status from Theodore Odom, past president and to find out about documents filed by Nicholas Green, several years ago to determine what needs to be done to file our paperwork.

A motion was made and seconded to open our bank account at TDECU. This motion was accepted with no dissenting votes.

A motion was made and seconded to have dues be \$20.00 per person with each membership having one vote. This was accepted with no dissenting votes. Several people paid dues and Mary Rodenbaugh donated \$100.00 to the organization.

The April Event that is being planned will be on April 9th at the Kroger on Shadow Creek Parkway from 10 am to 1 pm. The plan is to have the DARE officer attend, to have child ID kits available, to have face painting and a story time. We are exploring having a fire truck present as well. Publicity for the event was discussed and several ideas were mentioned for getting the word out including the yahoo groups for Silverlake, Southwyck and Shadow Creek Ranch, the book clubs in Shadow Creek Ranch, the media and other email lists. There will be a meeting on Tuesday, February 10th at 6:30 PM at Nolan Ryan Jr. High to discuss the planning for the event and to assign various tasks. Girl Scout and Boy Scout volunteers will be needed to help with the event. This will be presented to the Girl Scout West side Service Unit and to the Boy Scouts by members who were present at this meeting. Combining with the Friends of the Pearland Library for this event was discussed and the group will be contacted.

Amit Joshi indicated that he is still working on getting a website up for the group and that he has access to the old domain name.

We had a report from Cathy Threadgill on the state of the library system and the fact that state funding for libraries is being severely cut. Funding for databases and for interlibrary loans has been cut to \$0.00. School library funding is also being cut. In particular, the 1995 bill that mandated Telcoms give a discount on services to libraries will expire in 2012 and while the Telcoms assure people that they will continue the discount without it, that may not happen and would be a large expense for libraries and schools.

The Alvin Library is almost ready to reopen. The remodeling contract date is March 15, 2011. They hope to reorganize and reopen soon after that with a grand opening in May.

The Pearland substation continues to be very busy showing our need for a storefront or library building on this side of town. We currently have a regular Westside branch employee 20 hours per week and it takes an Alvin librarian another 16 hours per week to keep up with checking in the books returned at our site and to process holds.

There are several events for the Brazoria County Library System that we are being asked to participate in.

On January 27th, 28th and 29th, the County Library book sale will be held at the Angleton Library. The hours on Friday and Saturday are 9 am to 6 pm. Books are priced at \$1.00 and under. Friends groups are asked to come to buy books and to help with cleaning up on Monday, Jan 31st at 9 am.

On March 29th, there will be a fundraising dinner at the Angleton First United Methodist Church. The tickets will be \$30 to \$35 per person and the food will be country themed. The local authors of *Giant Under the Hill: A History of the Spindletop Oil Discovery at Beaumont, Texas, in 1901* will be present to autograph copies of their book. Each Friends group is asked to donate a basket for the silent auction, however, our group has no funds yet, so we are not being asked to do this at this time.

There are several legislative days coming up for Brazoria County, for Texas Libraries and for the Schools. There are buses from Pearland to Austin for these events if anyone is interested in participating.

The floor was opened to comments.

From the floor: We need to keep an eye on long term goals in the City Council. Only \$500,000 has been approved in the City budget for a library building, but the building as proposed would cost \$12,000,000. Each of the persons at the meeting should invite one other person to come to our next meeting. We have new representatives at the county. We need to make them aware of the need for a library on the west side of Pearland. We will need a letter writing or email writing campaign that lets them know that their constituents believe this is an important issue.

Our commissioners for the county are:

Commissioner, Pct 1 – Dude Payne dudep@brazoria-county.com

Commissioner, Pct. 2 - Matt Sebesta matts@brazoria-county.com

Commissioner, Pct. 3 - Stacy L. Adams stacya@brazoria-county.com

Commissioner, Pct. 4 - Larry Stanley larrys@brazoria-county.com

Our county judge is: Joe King countyjudge@brazoria-county.com

The Brazoria County Website is:

<http://www.brazoria-county.com/>
<http://www.brazoria-county.com/Directory.asp>

The county library website is:

<http://bcls.lib.tx.us/>

Our branch is listed at: <http://bcls.lib.tx.us/branches/pws/pearlandwest.asp>

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Sacks, Secretary