

Friends of the Pearland Westside Library – Meeting Minutes 01/30/2012

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM.

Present at the meeting were: Raymond Ruiz, Terry Ruiz, Dorothy Sacks, Marie Ferguson, Cathy Threadgill, Don MacGregor, Amit Joshi, Steve Zach, and Lydia Fluit

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's report: The current balance in the checking account is \$939.47. The savings account balance is \$5.00. The amendment was sent in to the state in December, but the 501C(3) status has not yet been approved.

Amit Joshi reported that paypal is now up on the website. There is a fee for each transaction.

The election was held and Marie Ferguson was re-elected as treasurer. No one stepped forward to be considered for Vice President so that office is still vacant.

Cathy Threadgill's report:

There was a spelling error on the Brazoria County Website that Cathy will fix for us.

The book sale for the Brazoria County Libraries made \$3450.00

The Angleton Author Dinner will be held on March 29, 2012 at 7 pm. Tickets are \$35.00. The authors chosen are Walter and Isabel Davis who wrote Exploring the Edges of Texas. There will be approximately 100 to 150 people at the dinner.

A new idea is to have a *take a book, give a book* event in places where people have to wait for things (doctors and dentists offices, etc.)

We will have another author event at the Westside Event Center on May 7th at 7 PM. John Hoffmeister will talk about his book Why We Hate the Oil Companies. The friends group is being asked to provide refreshments.

Gulf Coast Reads will happen in October. The book is not yet announced.

The Brazoria County Library System is now accepting credit cards for fines, but there is a \$2.00 flat fee for all transactions from \$.50 to \$66.00 so it may not be productive to use a credit card for small fines.

Volunteers for the Westside Library will start being trained soon. Volunteering will be in 2 hour blocks. Volunteers will be most needed over the holidays. Training will be on Tuesday or Thursday in a 4 to 5 hour block. Dorothy Sacks, Marie Ferguson and Lydia Fluit wish to take the training. Someone from the staff will contact them about when this can be done.

Other business:

Raymond reported that he is working on a bookclub for a week night. He would like 4 to 20 people and would like to do a different book each month. Barnes and Noble may be solicited to provide coffee. The book club might meet at the Precinct 4 North Annex where the Friends Group currently meets.

Fundraising ideas:

The water bill money is in the library board account and there is about \$250 for both libraries.

We would like to have book sales at the schools.

We would like to make bookmarks for donations.

We need to begin collecting books for book sales again.

T-shirt sales are another possibility. A Book without a Home is Lonely was mentioned as a possible slogan. Steve Zach volunteered to look into getting t-shirts made.

Terry Ruiz will look into a Fall Carnival at Wilder for our group.

We need to get into the Best Magazine Mailer and into the Silverlake, Shadow Creek and Southwyck Newsletters.
We might auction off dinner with city officials and/or county officials.
We may be able to have q monthly spirit night at New York Pizza.
Several local businesses do gift cards with money back – Chili's, BJ Brewery, Gringos, etc.

We need to put anything we do on the Friends Page at the Brazoria County Website.

We may have guest speakers at our meetings (Scott Sherman, Greg Hill?) to attract more people.

Dues for the year are due - \$20.00 per person.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Dorothy Sacks