

MINUTES OF FRIENDS OF THE DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY
SEPTEMBER 1989

Meeting was called to order at 4:05 by President Rossiter, those present were; Edith Rossiter, Mark Sorensen, Jim Seidl, Beatrice Bond, Connie Requarth, Martin Seidman, Mary Traxler, Frank Verbanac, Lois Boyer and Shirley Edwards.

President Rossiter recognized Katie Gross, who again thanked the Board for their financial support in last year's summer reading program. She asked the Board if they would consider selling T-shirts with the logo of next summer's reading program. The cost of the shirts is under five dollars and could be used as a money maker and promotion of the summer reading program and suggested selling them beginning two weeks before program begins. ALA has posters that could be sold at the book sales. Cost for posters is \$4 each. Mrs. Gross would also like the Board to consider selling a select group of books at the book sales for 50 cents to one dollar.

President Rossiter introduced Tom Nakos who presented his "creations from post cards." He proposed they be sold at the library for ten to twenty dollars each depending on size. His fee would be 25%. Mr. Nakos is an amateur artist and would like to teach the fundamentals of art to children at the library on Saturdays. Proposal was discussed later in meeting and decision was made not to accept Mr. Nakos' request to sell the framed pictures or permit him to give art lessons to children.

President Rossiter asked for a report from Shirley Edwards. The financial report was distributed, and President Rossiter pointed out the one CD had rolled over and new interest is 8.35%. Shirley also reported a check had been received from Decatur Arts Council in the amount of \$550 for their share in funding the storyteller for summer reading program.

Board members were asked for comments in regard to the newsletter and all thought a good job was being done.

President Rossiter asked for ideas on how to locate volunteers. St. Patricks' School as well as McKinley Court nursing home has requested volunteer readers. Mrs. Rossiter had been asked by Rosemary Clark (head of volunteers at DMH) to meet with Claudia Quigg, Sharon Alpi and herself to

President Rossiter will give a brief update of the Friends activities at the next Book Between Bites program (October).

Julie Allen asked Shirley to obtain a list of volunteers for the children's book drive on October 23rd from 10-3. Connie, Edith and Bea offered to help.

Mr. Seidl said 500 childrens books are being donated to the Joliet Library due to a fire bombing and depletion of their collection. He will try to get Falstrom to write an article before the book sale, this in addition to his being on the In Focus program with Dick Westbrook. There are 20,000 books to be put in the book sale.

A letter was received from the Metro Chamber of Commerce requesting an update on listing of officers of the Friends which will be in the Community Organizations book.

Book sale chairman, Martin Seidman said due to a scheduling conflict the Friends will not have access to the auditorum until Saturday morning so the volunteers will start at 7 a.m. Bea, Edith, Lois, Mary and Karen will work as cashiers. Discussed increasing the price per book, having on-going book sale in library, sale once a week, once a month et.c., to be manned by Friends. No final decisions were made for future book sale changes.

President Rossiter read a letter of explanation and apology from Karen Becker in regard to her absence at previous board meetings.

Secretary showed a sample tote bag for the board to consider selling in addition to or in place of the bag now being sold. After discussing the possibility it was decided that a current price list will be available at next meeting for final decision. All agreed a picture of present library would be printed on one side.

Mr. Seidl reported that one more bid for the sound system is scheduled in September and information will be available at November board meeting. Mr. Sorensen asked that provisions for the hearing impaired be considered.

Mr. Booth has assisted the Friends in properly submitting the By-Laws to the State and is completing all the necessary paperwork for the 501C Status at no charge to the Friends.

Mr. Sorensen said the five year-long range plan for the Decatur Public Library is completed, and Mr. Seidl will give the Board a copy. Added this

Mr. Seidl said the plan is to look at personnel, access to building, services provided, how public is informed about programs, automation (on-line catalog), how to improve finances for the library, raise tax levy, start foundation, and use interest from foundation money.

September was designated as National Library Card Sign-Up month. The Friends gave free memberships to every 100th person and a book bag to the 1200th person. Also, a gift certificate for 10 free books at the fall Book Sale was given.

President Rossiter would like to have a membership drive as volunteers are needed and adding this information to the membership form may be beneficial. We have had little response for volunteers to read to nursing homes. Mrs. Bond said the retired teachers are in the process of organizing their volunteers and maybe some might be interested in the program the Friends are trying to establish. She will have an up-date in November. Mr. Seidl agreed to have Shirley coordinate the volunteers. Information on feasibility of sending out a special mailing for membership will be presented in November

President Rossiter said the November meeting will name the nominating committee.

No further old business or new business. Meeting was adjourned at 5:25.

Next meeting will be November 9, 1989 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Edwards
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Executive Secretary-treasurer