

**MAE S. BRUCE LIBRARY
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES April 2, 2014**

Sue Johnson, president, called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm. The following board members were in attendance: Sue Johnson, Kim Holliday, Linda Coyle, Sharon Tipton, and Vicki Franzke. Library Director, Brenda Cheatham was also present.

Minutes of the January 15, 2014 meeting were approved on motion by Kim.

Treasurer's Report: Kim reported a balance of \$157.28 in the account, unchanged from last time.

Director's Report: Brenda had applied for a CTLS grant for the Summer Reading Program, which we did not get at first. Then Presidio Library dropped out and we were chosen for funding. The program is titled *Science Rocks!* We will have an educational trailer called *Trailblazer* aimed at 3rd-8th graders, but suitable for all ages, which will visit on July 12th for 4 hours. Volunteers will be needed to assist in manning the trailer. We will also receive 50 experiments to do. Kim says she has some equipment which may assist Julie in this program and will get with her on it.

Brenda passed around a flyer for the Santa Fe Educational Foundation and the Chamber of Commerce event on May 3rd at Jack Brooks Park. It is a good example of partnering as the FOL has discussed in order to be able to have additional fund raisers.

Joan Fiesel has spoken at the Rotary and the Chamber events. We have several new Friends members including Ron Carter auto that joined and sent a check for \$300.00. Jason Tabor of the Galveston County Soccer Association will be using the library's meeting room for soccer sign up. Brenda will suggest to the Friends that someone be on hand to hand out brochures and give tours of the Library facility. This event is on May 17th and is another outgrowth of Joan's talks.

Brenda reported on the overdue book collection issues. Our process was approved through City Council a long time ago. Library staff has kept good records on all efforts to work with people having overdue books. For complicated reasons, staff will be unable to pursue the return of overdue materials via the municipal court system. Instead, Library staff will look into the return of long overdue materials using a collection agency, which charges a fee per account. On the expansion front, Brenda had e-mailed Joe Dickson in January about using a County grant writer. Brenda contacted CTLS for recommendations for a grant writer and the name Jennifer Peters at TSLAC was offered. Brenda will check with her soon.

Old Business:

1. Mystery Dinner on Feb 21, 2014 earned 516.45. There was discussion about having a dinner next year followed the next day by a book and plant sale. FOL can have two fund raisers each year, each within a period of 24 hours.
2. Heritage Festival-Sharon reported that the Heritage Festival committee is thinking of moving the event to Jack Brook's park with the five main participants and the stage

going into the larger events building. Kim and Sue do not feel it is large enough so Sharon will suggest to the Heritage committee that it be measured and laid out before committing to the change. It was felt we need as space 30x10 and will need about 10 tables to do it right.

3. SRP-FOL money was given to the Library in the amount of \$1,400 of which Julie will spend the \$400.00 remaining on books for summer reading.

4. It was noted that the FOL spring book and plant sale was cancelled because of the recently learned facts concerning the limits on fund raising events.

New Business: Brenda reported that she will prepare a budget for next year to be submitted to Joe Dickson by May. It will be red lined and we will work with the amount the Council approves. Brenda says that all Library numbers are down this year. Usage is changing and based on that she is going to suggest hiring a librarian trained staff member and will push for hiring young tech savvy people. This may be in the form of a two to three year plan. The Library needs to have the ability to do a better job in planning for teen and adult events.

The next LAB meeting will be Wednesday, July 2, 2014 at 12:30pm. Brenda reminded us that it will be time to renew board members for approval in July by City Council. It will also be time to elect officers. The meeting was adjourned at 2pm by unanimous agreement.

Sharon Tipton
Secretary