Friends of the University Libraries, Western Michigan University
Minutes
June 14, 2010

Present: Fitzgerald, Garland-Rike, Houghton, Rudzicka, Smith, Timmerman

Meeting was called to order at 2:02

Agenda was approved as amended (Fitzgerald/Garland-Rike)

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved without amendment (Garland-Rike/Fitzgerald)

New Business

Website – Fitzgerald reported that the change to the by-laws on the website has been delayed. A current version of the by-laws is needed in electronic format. Garland-Rike will investigate.

Garland-Rike proposed placing photos from the Friends trip to the Gerald Ford Museum on the website. She will send photos to Fitzgerald.

Awards – Garland-Rike announced that she had put in a recommendation for a staff award. She had not received any information back regarding it.

Old Business

Banner – Garland-Rike presented the draft of the proposed banner. She had been in contact with Regina Buckner about how we plan to use the banner and our desire to remove “Event” from it. The Friends plan was approved. The only issue still to be determined is the inclusion of either the University seal or the block ‘W’. Garland-Rike will continue to work through this.

A motion was made and passed to create a banner and purchase a stand for it. (Garland-Rike/Fitzgerald)

Planning for upcoming year

-Collaboration with outside groups – Houghton reported that she, Steuer, and Sharon Carlson met with the board of the Friends of Kalamazoo Public Library (which includes Dave Sheldon) on June 9 about future collaboration between our group and KPL Friends. Joint programs, one to two times per year, possibly featuring staff of WMU libraries, were suggested. The KPL Friends were very receptive. There was also discussion of joint membership in both organizations. No decision was made on joint membership but another meeting is planned between the two groups to discuss possible programming.
The group asked Houghton questions about the meeting and it was suggested that the Portage and Parchment Libraries Friends groups be approached at some time in the future.

-Increasing membership – Houghton announced that the membership letter went out in the last couple of weeks. It was hoped that results would be apparent by the next meeting of the board. Rudzicka expressed the desire to reach out to students for membership – possibly through the website. Fitzgerald suggested Bronco Bash. Rudzicka agreed to give this further thought and report on it at a future meeting.

-Participation in fundraising – Houghton reported on a meeting that took place on June 3 with herself, Steuer, and Sharon Carlson and Joe Reish and Regina Buckner from library administration, and Kathleen Barnes from the development office. The Friends desire to collaborate with other groups and to raise funds, in some manner, for a new Archives building was discussed. Barnes suggested that the fundraising help come in the form of programming for alumni and library supporters. Examples of this type of programming are: a behind the scenes tour of the library during Homecoming or a program highlighting Civil War materials in the library collections in commemoration of the upcoming sesquicentennial. It was also suggested that the Friends could help by indentifying possible donors, suggesting possible speakers for programs, or sponsor a reunion of former student employees at the library during PepFest. Another meeting is planned for July.

Other Business

Archives Townhall Meeting – Houghton encouraged board members to attend the meeting planned for July 27. It is intended to get input from the community on the proposed future Archives building. The location of the meeting is still to be determined.

The next meeting is tentatively set for September 13.

Adjourned at 3:06

Beth Timmerman
Secretary