Minutes of the Friends of the University Libraries - Board Meeting – June 11, 2012


Welcome/Announcements
The meeting was called to order at 2:03. Houghton welcomed everybody and provided introductions. Houghton provided a meeting schedule for the year. Houghton requested contact information from everybody.

Approval of Agenda
The agenda was approved as presented. (Houdek/Carlson)

Approval of Minutes
The minutes of the April meeting were approved as presented. (Houdek/Zastrow)

Treasurer’s Report
The Treasurer’s Report was accepted as presented. (Carlson/Houdek) There was some activity since the annual meeting, including the insurance for the Medieval Congress display. Houghton reviewed the contract with Better World Books. Everything is represented even if the expenses have not cleared. Houghton reviewed expenses for the coming year.

Committee Reports
Houghton sent out a list of committees and responsibilities and reviewed them.

Events Committee
The speakers are set for the current year. Steuer reviewed the current calendar. Steuer is willing to shepherd the four events for the coming year. Gwen Tarbox will give a preparatory talk for the program featuring Nate Powell. Both talks will focus on graphic novels. Steuer expects the programs will draw substantial campus and community interest. We are partnering with English department, School of Art, and the Kalamazoo Book Arts Center. We also received a Visiting Scholars and Artists Committee funding. Dr. Diane Dillon will be a featured speaker in the spring. She is with the Newberry Library and an expert of the 1893 Columbian Exposition. She will visit four classes. Houghton and Carlson will prepare a display. We also received funding from the Visiting Scholars and Artists Committee for this talk. There will be a “Behind the Scenes” at the Education Library when Sangren is completed. A date has not been set. There was discussion on logistics of providing space and marketing for the speakers. Houghton reported that we still need 2013-2014 speakers. We need committee members to work on this next program year. There are two events in the fall and two events in the spring. Houghton would like to see faculty speakers expanded to include a diverse range of programs and curriculum. She reviewed the “Behind the Scenes” programs. We have had good collaborations with the Kalamazoo Book Arts Center for outside speakers.

Web/Marketing Committee
This committee will need to work on marketing of the upcoming events. Steuer hopes somebody on the committee will take over the production of Friendly Notes. There was discussion of Gatherings and the role of the Friends. Fitzgerald who has rotated off the board was part of the Web Committee.
Membership

Houghton and Steuer talked to the Emeriti Council last year. A couple of new members joined. Houghton reported that Gerow was extremely helpful during her tenure but she has taken another position in the University. Houdek will be on the board of the Emeriti Council and will bring this issue up with the group.

Student Awards/Events

One of the items that the Friends fund is the student scholarships. Typically, a member of the board will be part of the application review. We also participate in Bronco Bash and Finals Finish. Garland-Rike was the point person for the student employee scholarships. We will need to find somebody who will be part of this. Eckel would be willing to be part of this. Bronco Bash is September 7 and the application has been submitted.

Eckel is trying to secure a tent or canopy. We are trying to get the tables close to one another, the University Libraries and the Friends of the University Libraries. The Book Club is also a student event. Last year the Friends coordinated a Book Club. Kevin Barton from the Digitization Center took charge. There were about eleven or twelve students. There is another student who is willing to take it on. The major problem has been finding a location to meet. The Friends made a contribution toward the common read. We provided some funds for a reception. Finals Finish occurs at the end of each semester. The University Libraries provides coffee and refreshments. The students are very pleased. It is a nice energy to be part of and the Friends support the funds. There was discussion on how to engage students.

Nominations

This meets early in the year and finds people interested in participating on the board.

New Business

Staff Training – There is another application from Marianne Swierenga to attend a workshop at the University of Minnesota. She has asked for funds to cover hotel and travel of $450. She has received funding from another source for the training itself. A motion and supported unanimously to support this application. (Carlson/Zastrow)

Old Business

Donors of Time and Treasure – Houghton provided a brief update on the event.

Archives Update – Carlson provided a brief update and distributed the latest renderings. The building now includes additional space for the materials held in the Valley. There is another building meeting tomorrow. Reish has indicated that he will seek funding for the seminar room. VanderKley wants the building to have a higher profile. There was discussion on the role of the Friends and naming opportunities.

The meeting adjourned at 3:02. (Steuer/Smith)

The minutes were taken by S. Carlson.