Friends of the University Libraries, Western Michigan University
Minutes
September 13, 2010

Present: Steuer, Fitzgerald, Gedeon, Houghton

Meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m.

Agenda was approved as amended (Fitzgerald/Houghton)

Minutes from the June 14, 2010 meeting were approved without corrections.
(Fitzgerald/Steuer)

New Business

Treasurer’s Report
There was no report for this month.

Memorial Donation
Steuer reported that the Friends received a memorial donation in honor of Dr. Andrew Carlson, father of Dr. Sharon Carlson, Director of the WMU Archives and Regional History Collections. Fitzgerald suggested that Dr. Sharon Carlson and the Archives staff spend it at their discretion although he did suggest to let it build. Steuer sent a thank you on behalf of the Friends.

Committee Reports
Website
Fitzgerald reported that the bylaws are up on the website with the changes and also the talk by Donna and Peter Thomas on September 23 will be on the banner. Kathleen Garland-Rike sent photographs of the visit by the Friends to the Ford Museum and Fitzgerald will try to find out how to use them. Sue will be talking to Michael Wang about this.

Events/PR
Joint Events with the Friends of the Kalamazoo Public Library
Steuer and Houghton met on August 24 with the Friends of the Kalamazoo Public Library Programming Committee to discuss the upcoming joint event on September 23, 2010 with Donna and Peter Thomas. In addition, they also talked about a joint Annual Meeting in spring 2011 between the two Friends organizations with a series of speakers looking at different examples of early “friends” of Kalamazoo’s libraries like the VanDeusens, the Ladies Library Association and supporters of Waldo Library’s Rare Book Room.

Donor Events
Steuer reported on a meeting both she and Houghton attended this summer with Dr. Joe Reish, Reginer Buckner, Sharon Carlson and Kate Barnes who is working
with Waldo Library to raise funds to develop events for potential donors for the Archives. Two ideas that developed include a “Behind the Scenes” program and one called “Living Archives” where at least three history Honors students would each be a person whose collection is at the Archives.

Exam Week Support
Administration at Waldo wanted to know if the Friends would help pay for coffee and snacks for students during Exam Week.

A motion was made and passed to provide up to $100 from the Friends for this. (Steuer/Fitzgerald)

Exhibition Support
Steuer reported that during the 2011 Medieval Conference the Rare Book Room will have on display manuscripts from Ohio State University which will be on display in the Meader Room. Steuer requested funds from the Friends to help cover the cost of insurance for this exhibit which will run one week to ten days.

A motion was made and passed to provide up to $250 from the Friends to assist with the cost of insurance for this exhibit. (Steuer/Fitzgerald)

Membership
Kathy Gerow reported that there was no substantial growth of members due to the mailing conducted this summer to faculty and staff.

Awards
No report. The LSAB has done nothing yet on this for the scholarship program this fall but it is assumed that they will be coming to the Friends for assistance.

Old Business
Banner
No report

Other Business
New Archives building and Friends option for helping
Houghton gave a short report on what has been happening over the summer with this project. She discussed Dr. Carlson’s meeting with the President, how the site for a new building has been changed from the Kalamazoo State Hospital grounds to land near Schneider Hall. Dr. Carlson also met with the Provost this summer and in September the architectural firm for the new building had been put on hold while the Kmart option was pursued more seriously by Administration. Steuer also reported that the Dean of Libraries had received approval the morning of September 13 to bring in a consultant from the National Archives to look at both options (new building vs. Kmart).
The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 4, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m. (Steuer/Fitzgerald)

Lynn Houghton
Interim Secretary