Minutes of the Friends of the University Libraries Meeting

June 2, 2014

Zhang Legacy Center

Attending: Carlson, Chase, Eckel, Gedeon, Hargis

Meeting was called to order at 2:40 p.m.

Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved as written.

Approval of minutes to April 17, 2014 meeting (Annual meeting).

The minutes to the annual meeting were read by Ed Eckel and approved.

Treasurer’s report

The only change from last month was income from Better World books: $1046.23

Committee Reports

Past events:

- The annual meeting at Book Arts Center was well received. It was noted that we only had one guest from outside the Friends board.

Future Events 2014/15

- Behind the Scenes at Rare Books and Special Collections - set for the fall.
- Carlson has put in a visiting scholars application to bring in Dr. Margaret Weitekamp (National Air and Space Museum). No news on this application yet.
  - We might want to talk to people at the College of Aviation, both for co-sponsorship and for marketing for this event.

Student Scholarships
Two students won for the fall 2013 semester - these awards were given out in April. Plus, another round of scholarship applications were received and reviewed at that time. Two winners were selected for the fall 2014 semester. Buckner informed Eckel that future awards will be judged in the spring and given out only in the fall semester.

**Old Business**

**Friends Mission/Goal**

Morgan has asked about what the Friends mission or goal is, and suggests that we try to clarify what we are doing and why we exist. A discussion ensued regarding this issue. The Friends are not generating a lot of money for the library. It was noted also that the Friends are not getting as many applications for staff professional development funds as in the past. Perhaps we need to get the word out about the availability of professional development funds for staff. Morgan also asked about facilitating student involvement. Hargis suggested that the Friends could help mentor those who are thinking of becoming librarians or information science majors. We could, for instance, help point them to good programs. It was suggested that perhaps we try to make our informal mentoring efforts more official, more part of the FUL mission.

Perhaps we could hold a Friends event that encourages students to consider librarianship as a career. Something along the lines of 'What you can do with a library or information science degree?' Hargis mentioned that, since the WMU library science program was closed, librarianship has sort of stopped being a suggested career option for our students, in the sense that no one mentions it. It is almost invisible. Perhaps we could hold FUL-sponsored brown-bags to talk about these career options or have students meet representatives from the library schools at Wayne State or UMich.

**Reimbursement for Mary Heebner** - Neil will double check with Sharon about whether this took place.

**Gatherings Publication** - What is happening with this? Last issue came out in fall 2012. Eckel will ask Grotzinger about the status of this publication and inform the FUL board.

The next FUL Board meeting will be September 8 at 2 p.m. in the Zhang Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Eckel, Secretary