

Friends of the Orange County Public Library  
Annual Meeting – Business Portion  
December 1, 2012

Present: Bill Barrows, Robin Bedingfield, Janet Flowers, Sandy Gerstner, Lori Graham, Chris Holaday, Lucinda Munger, Erin Hils Shepherd, Mark Smith, Andrea Tullos

Co-Chair, Janet Flowers, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance for the Friends Annual Meeting and Holiday Celebration.

### **Approval of Bylaws Changes**

Robin Bedingfield, chair of both the Bylaws Task Group and the Membership Committee, first reminded the group that memberships could be renewed today. She then proceeded to go over the proposed changes to the bylaws as recommended by the task group. She noted that most of the changes were meant to streamline and increase the efficiency of the document.

A synopsis of selected changes is as follows:

Article 2 – Section 1: The fourth bullet was moved into the first position as fundraising is the Friends’ primary purpose. The language, “for the benefit of the Orange County Main Library in Hillsborough.” was added to this bullet point to emphasize that FOCPL focuses its support to the library in Hillsborough only.

Article 4 – Section 3: Language was added to state that directors must maintain active memberships in good standing for the duration of their time on the Board.

Article 4 – Section 6: Clarification was provided here to state the Board may fill vacancies that occur more than 6 months prior to the Annual Meeting by appointment.

Article 4 – Section 10: Section 10 was removed as the Library does not currently have an advisory board.

Article 5 – Section 1: As a co-president/co-chair model has been used for the past three years on the Board, this section was amended to reflect that practice.

Article 5 – Section 6: The Vice President, rather than the President, shall now be considered an ex-officio (non-voting) member of all committees.

Article 5 – Section 7: The President shall no longer serve on the Nominating Committee.

Article 6 – Section 5: The duties of the Treasurer Elect were clarified

Article 12 – Section 2: Section 2 was added to create a mechanism for regular review of the bylaws, which should occur on at least a biennial basis.

As there were no questions after review of the proposed changes, Elaine Crovitz moved to accept the amended bylaws. Lou Walters seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Election of New Board Members**

Erin Hils Shepherd, chair of this year's Nominating Committee, introduced Marcia Cameron and Laura Simmons, candidates for the Board of Director vacancies in 2013 and 2014. The floor was opened for nominations but none were made.

Erin then declared the slate of candidates presented by the Nominating Committee to be elected by acclamation. She thanked Marcia and Laura for their willingness to serve the Friends, and noted that the current Board is looking forward working with them.

### **Financial Report**

Treasurer Sandy Gerstner presented the 2012 financials through November 30, 2012.

The annual income to date totaled \$39,914.34 and included a \$10,012.00 bequest from the estate of a deceased Friend, as well as transfers from the John Idol account (which was closed and ultimately moved into the Triangle Community Foundation fund) and savings account in the amounts of \$10,241.08 and \$9,000, respectively.

The non-endowed account with the Triangle Community Foundation, which was opened in 2012 with a starting balance of \$35,000.00, has a current balance of \$35,595.31.

Operational and discretionary expenses remained low. The largest non-transfer expense was \$1,520.64 and was spent to send library staff to the Public Library Association conference.

With a motion by Robin Bedingfield and a second by Elaine Crovitz, the financial report was unanimously accepted.

### **Recognition of Volunteers**

Janet then recognized the many volunteers that contribute to the success of the Friends.

Lori Graham, the outgoing secretary, was the first to be recognized for her dedicated service to the Board by taking detailed, clearly-written minutes for the past two years.

Janet then asked the remainder of the Board members to stand and remarked on the collegial nature of this Board.

Finally, Janet asked all Friends members present to stand and thanked them for their support by donating books, attending book sales, volunteering at book sales, participating in the staff appreciation breakfast, and more.

### **Comments from Library Director**

Library Director Lucinda Munger gave an update of library goings-on and emphasized that there are several exciting projects on the horizon:

- The library is working on its first-ever strategic plan
- A community needs assessment has been completed in conjunction with the plan
- Upcoming focus groups will refine the findings from the community needs assessment and contribute to the strategic plan
- In the spring, the library will roll out a new ILS system and self-checkout stations

Lucinda remarked on the extensive and generous support of the Board of County Commissioners, which is making possible these new projects. She said she can literally count on one hand the number of libraries in North Carolina that haven't experienced funding cuts—and the Orange County Public Library is one of those libraries. OCPL was one of just five BOCC-approved capital improvements projects.

She also noted that in conjunction with the addition of the self-checkout stations, the library will be outfitted with new RFID (radio frequency identification)/security gates to protect the collection. Between now and the spring, staff will be tagging 100,000 items in the library's collection so these items can be scanned for checkout.

Lucinda expressed her sincerest gratitude to the FOCPL Board for its diligent work to support the library and said she looks forward to another year working together.

### **Adjournment**

Prior to adjourning the meeting, Janet encouraged Friends members in attendance to continue supporting the library, especially by helping out with the staff appreciation breakfast next spring, particularly as the staff will be hard at work implementing the new system changes Lucinda outlined.

With a motion to adjourn made by Elaine Crovitz, and a second from Robin Bedingfield, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.