

Friends of the Summerville Library (FOSL)

April 14, 2015

The monthly meeting of the Friends of the Summerville Library met on Tuesday, April 14, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 7:0t pm.

In Attendance:

Autumn Reid, President

Ellen Hyatt, Summerville Writers Guild Liaison

Harriet Little, Member

Cathy Coffee, Membership/Book Sale

Becky Westfall, Library Liaison

Carole Brier, Secretary

Anne Gleason, Treasurer

Carol Brummett, Vice President

Beverly Brockman, Member

Mevelyn Williams, Member

Gail Masocco, Member

Margaret O. McKinley, Member

Pamela Ward, Fund Raising/Events

Kelli Painter, Member

Agenda:

1. President and Publicity reports (Reid)
2. Treasurer's report (Gleason)
3. Library Liaison report (Westfall)
4. Advocacy Committee (Lodge)
5. Membership Committee report (Coffey)
6. Book Sale report (Coffey)
7. Fundraising/Events Committee (Ward)
8. Hospitality Committee report (Brummett)
10. Summerville Writers Guild Liaison (Hyatt)
11. Unfinished business (Reid)
12. New business (Reid)
13. Upcoming meetings/event dates
14. Adjournment

President's Report (Reid)

- The minutes were approved as distributed. Moved by Harriet Little: Seconded by Cathy Coffee
- Publicity is going up for the upcoming book sale and for Dorothea. Ticket sales are underway for Mary Alice, and are just beginning for Dorothea. Please be sure to sign up to volunteer or purchase a ticket for the event.

Treasurer's Report (Gleason)

- Treasurer's report of income and expenses attached to these minutes.
- A new column is added to the report to show the budget estimates for each category. The purpose is to keep us aware of how actual costs bounce against budget estimates.

Library Report to Friends of the Summerville Library (Westfall)

Program Report:

It is National Library Week! Please enjoy our display on the long counter celebrating libraries' "unlimited possibilities!" Incorporated in the display are the articles Ellen Hyatt has written for the Summerville Journal Scene under the theme "Lives Change @ Your Library" since October, 2014. We also have a display in our glass case recognizing the SC Academy of Authors and its 4 new inductees. This display is part of a state-wide library initiative the Academy holds each year. Thanks again to Ellen for helping with this display each year.

- For National Library Week we are very happy to exhibit "A World of Readers" in our Westvaco Room. These works are from the personal collection of Dr. Tom Johnson, librarian emeritus for the South Caroliniana library at USC. The exhibit will continue through May 17th. Ellen Hyatt served as liaison with Dr. Johnson to bring the exhibit to our library. (Thank you again, Ellen!)
- Also in celebration of National Library Week, we are holding a "Food for Fines" drive. Patrons with late charges on their accounts can pay them down with canned goods for charity. One dollar in late fines is forgiven for each clean, un-dented and unexpired can donated, up to \$25 total. The "deal" is not good for replacement costs or charges from our collection agency. Details are available at the circulation desk. Donated cans will be given to Pinelands Group Home, the Salvation Army, and One80 Place shelter for women and children.
- Today is National Library Workers Day. The staff celebrated with a pizza lunch. Each also received a magnet from the Friends (Thank you for the "I Love My Public Library" magnets!)
- Next week is Money Smart Week. We will have two financial education programs for adults and one for children. (see below) On Friday the library held its spring Staff Development Day. We received training in child safety from the Dorchester Children's Center using Darkness 2 Light's Child Sexual Abuse Prevention course. This was serious, but important information for us to learn.

- April 21, at 6 pm - Budgeting and Credit 101
- April 23, 2 – 3:30 pm Insurance Seminar
- April 24, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm – Kids' Money Smart Program: "store" and activities
- April 28, 1 – 2:30 pm – Email Basics Computer Class – Westvaco Room
- April 29, 2-3 pm – Dia de los Ninos program (Day of the Young Child) – multicultural stories, songs, dances and food for young children.
- Every Thursday afternoon 1-4 pm – E-Reader Assistance

Advocacy (Lodge)

- This past month I met with the past chair, Dr. David Rison and with the Branch Manager, Becky Westfall in order to gather input about how they think the Advocacy Committee should proceed. David suggested meeting with the committee within the Library Board that is pro bond referendum and also that our committee needs to reach out beyond the FOSL members to the larger community. He offered to serve on our committee and also suggested some names of potential members. I'm happy to report that one of his suggestions, Janet Rosenzweig, volunteered to serve before I even asked her. So I now have two members in addition to myself. I am hoping to add up to seven more.
- My meeting with Becky Westfall was very insightful and she had more names to suggest for the committee. She pointed out that the main thing we must do to start advocating is to get the message out to constituents especially non-library users (Why the library is so essential, how staffing affects service, how the library delivers great bang for the buck, etc.)
- Finally, I attended the March 31st meeting of the Library Board at the Seago Branch. I was pleasantly surprised to hear them discussing the need for the bond referendum which will be slated for the November 2016 Election. The thought is that push for the referendum should start in 2016 including putting aside contingency funds to hire a

consultant and for any possible legal costs. They also alluded to the need for them to talk to County Council members but apparently most of the Council is aware that the Referendum's time has come and they are generally supportive. I was introduced to the Board as the Advocacy Chair for the FOSL so the Board is aware that we stand ready to assist in any way to further the cause.

- 2016 seems a long way off and we don't want to get too far ahead of the Library Board on this but it does not hurt to get the issue out there in front of the public. David and Becky both suggested that a letter to the editor campaign might be a good place to start raising public awareness. I think, after adding a few more members, I will call a meeting and see what ideas others may have. I've gathered quite a bit of information from ALA and PLA (American Library Association & Public Library Association) as well as the national group for Friends and Library Advocates about how to conduct such a campaign from scratch. We won't have to do that and we won't have to convince the Library Board to work with us so that will make our task a bit easier. I am looking forward to working as part of a team to improve library services in Dorchester County.

Debbie Lodge, Chair Advocacy Committee

Membership Committee/Book Sale (Coffey)

- Plans and advertising for the May 1, 2 and 3 book sale are well underway.
- A volunteer sign-up sheet was distributed.
- There is no new membership information to submit this month.

Summerville Writers Guild Liaison Report (Hyatt)

- The display case features the SC Academy of Authors (SCAA) Inductees for 2015: Dorothea Benton Frank, William Ioor, Brett Lott, and Marjory Wentworth. Thanks to Rebecca Westfall's help with the display and Friends of Summerville Library for encouraging the educational focus of the Board of Governors of SCAA by promoting the reading of the Inductees' past and present. I have a program for the Friends' records from the Induction weekend (April 10-12, 2015).
- On behalf of the Board of Governors, again thanks to the Friends for the donation. It is a pleasure to see the Friends of Summerville Library listed.
- On another note, the Summerville Writers Guild is now near the compilation stage of edited works for the Anthology.

Respectfully submitted, Ellen E. Hyatt, Liaison

Events/Fundraising: (Ward)

Mary Alice Monroe

- Sign up for volunteering needs to be done asap because we will hold a meeting for volunteers. Berkeley County
- Friends are signing up too <http://vols.pt/RThC6s>
- Tickets are on sale and please consider pushing sell of tickets. Berkeley county friends are planning to sell 50. We are in the process of planning menu, decor, etc. for tea. Tickets will be on sell Thursday night and at the book sale.

Dorothea Frank

- Poster distribution, advertising, and tickets for Dottie Frank should begin now. We need two months to advertise Dottie. Volunteer Sign up for that event is limited. Tickets will be on sale at the library and on the Friends website or by calling us.

Next Meetings: Executive Board April 28, 2015 at 7pm (Panera); General Membership May 12,

at 7pm in the Westvaco room at the Library.

Upcoming Dates:

- Thursday: Rescue Me – ?; April 16, 5-8pm, Hutchinson Square
- A Gigantic Book Sale: C. Coffey & A. Reid; May 1, 2, 3, American Legion Post
- A Literary Tea Series: M. Alice Monroe – Pamela Ward; May 17, 3pm, Cypress Gardens
- A Literary Tea Series: - Pamela Ward; June 14, 3pm, Grace Lutheran Church

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Carole Brier, Secretary

