

Friends of the Summerville Library (FOSL) Tuesday, May 17th, 2016

The monthly meeting of the Friends of the Summerville Library met on Tuesday, May 17, 2016. Carol Brummett, President called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

In Attendance:

Carol Brummett, President
 Anne Gleason, Treasurer
 Cathy Coffey, Membership/Book Sale
 Mevelyn Williams, Secretary
 Rebecca Westfall, Member
 Rebecca Moore, Member
 Beverly Brockman, Member
 Kathy Marrah, Member
 Sandra Baden, Member
 Gail Masocco, Member
 Ellen Hyatt, Member
 Jean Kalkowski, Member
 Jennie Redmond, Dorchester County Library Director

Agenda:

1. President and Publicity reports (Brummett)
2. Treasurer's report (Gleason)
3. Library Liaison report (Redmond)
4. Advocacy Committee (Lodge)
5. Membership Committee/Book Sale report (Coffey)
6. Summerville Writers Guild Liaison (Hyatt)
7. Unfinished business (Brummett)
8. New business (Brummett)
9. Upcoming meetings/event dates
10. Adjournment

President's Report (Brummett)

- April minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report (Gleason)

- Financial report distributed to attendees and reviewed – all routine and filed for audit.

Library Liaison Report to Friends of Summerville Library –Interim J. Redmond

Lives Change @ Your Library!

Library News:

- Money \$mart Week @ Your Library – these events were well received.
- New edition of Book Worm is out – the teen produced newsletter.
- Bookmobile will be at Third Thursday in June. We are trying to get it out more.
- Advertising the Branch Manager position for the Summerville branch will close in May.
- Regular library budget meeting will be held on 5/23 in St. Goerge at 6:30.
- We should know by August 15th how the county council will approach the bond referendum for library expansion.

Friends of the Summerville Library (FOSL) Tuesday, May 17th, 2016

Upcoming Programs:

- Poetry Slam – 5/20
- DC Library Teen Meeting – 5/21
- Cloud computer – 5/24
- Family Game Night – 5/27
- Library is closed for Memorial Day – 5/30
- Summer Reading Program – 6/6

Membership and Book Sale Report – C. Coffey

Membership: Four new members from book sale \$45.00. Renewals collected at Book Sale \$170.00, renewals received by mail \$175.00. Total deposit \$390. Current paid up membership 177 members.

Book Sale: First of all, thanks to all the volunteers who helped out before, during and after the book sale. It would not be possible without all your help. **Thank you everyone!** Our gross income was \$4,000.60. The best day continues to be Friday with sales of \$2,050.00, Saturday \$1,103.00, Sunday \$639.60. approximate expenses include Advertising in SJS \$195.00, Updating signs \$50.00, and Storage Unit Rent \$440.00, and Ash & T's Movers \$350.00 equaling about \$1000.00. Net income should be about \$3000.00. School teachers from all over the area, as well as other charities were invited to pick up books on Sunday afternoon between 3 & 5 PM. Habitat for Humanity declined to pick up our left over books. The National Kidney Foundation picked up the left over books on Monday and Tuesday. I have been in contact with Berkeley County Friends of the Library. They have given me information on a company that collects books and distributes them around the world. I will follow up with that for future book sales. Advertising seemed to go well. The Boy Scouts volunteered on Sunday.

Summerville Writers Guild Liaison – E. Hyatt

1. Thank you for your kind donation once again to the SC Academy of Authors (SCAA). I am happy to report that the Friends were represented in the Program for the 30th Anniversary festivities in Anderson, SC, during the weekend of April 15-17. I brought a program for the Friends' record. Next year, the SCAA Induction activities will take place in Florence, SC. For more information, please see www.scacademyofauthors.org.
2. I'll be glad to keep the Summerville Writers Guild informed on the Author/tea (Karen White, Sun., June 5) event when the information is available. Some SWG members can perhaps help with refreshments and support the Friends by attending.
3. Dream's Third Thursday Author! Author! occurs on June 16, 5-8. I hope Friends will have time to mingle among the shops and meet some of the authors. They have been selected to be at specific locations and will present, read, and/or have books for sale. This year some of us are slotted for certain times, as well. (Yours

truly tries to share poetry that will not furrow brows  or cause yawning. ) Details are available at www.summervilledream.org/author-author.

NOTE: Local Author! Author! Books will be highlighted at the FOSL table. The list of authors from the website is attached to these minutes.

Advocacy Committee Report – D. Lodge

On May 2nd a group comprised of advocacy Committee members, Friends of the Library and other concerned citizens attended the Dorchester County Council meeting where the library consultants gave an abbreviated presentation of their recommendations for the library's future over the next ten years. This was followed by Council receiving a written copy of their full report. During the public comment segment at the beginning of the meeting, Debbie Lodge, Chair of the Advocacy, spoke explaining who our group was and that our attendance (and our heart badges) indicated our passion for public libraries. The recommendations from the consultants was positively received but Council refrained from putting the topic of a referendum for the November election to a vote. We later learned that they have until

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August 15th to make this decision and may pair a library referendum with one for the Parks Department. Jennie Redmond, Library Director, tells us that a copy of the full consultants' report may be viewed at the St. George Headquarters Library. She is working on getting a hard copy at the Summerville Library and an online version on the Library's website.

In order to push our agenda forward it was decided at the May 5th advocacy Committee meeting that a letter to the editor campaign might be a good place to start. The following members volunteered to be a part of this project: Debbie Lodge, Becky Westfall, Ellen Hyatt, Donna Underwood, Jennifer Armenti and Linda Saylor-Marchant.

Jennifer Armenti has created a Facebook Group Page which should make it easier for all to add messages. The Facebook Group is slightly different from the facebook Community page that was originally set up. It is called Summerville Library Advocates. Members were urged to visit, comment and promote the Group Page on their own timelines. Jennifer is also exploring the possibility of creating a blog for us. Outreach members, Robyn Dudley and Alice Young reported on their progress with reaching HOAs regarding the placement of materials in welcome packets for newcomers. Many neighborhoods no longer do this but are willing to include information in their newsletters. The possibility of doing this is an alternative was discussed with the idea that the "welcome packet" information would be distributed at the library.

At the May 5th meeting Debbie passed around the final draft hard copy of the Powerpoint presentation (Speaker's work group) along with the speaker's script. Debbie has prepared a list of possible groups we might speak to but is still in need of contact person's names. Since that meeting Robyn Dudley has been recruited to work on trying to fill in this information. Becky Westfall suggested that an email blast be put out to the Friends and Advocates to see if any belong to these groups or know someone who might aid in making contact (included with this report).

Upcoming Dates:

- Executive Board Meeting – C. Brummett; Tuesday, May 31st; Panera Bread
- FOSL General Meeting – C. Brummett; Tuesday, June 14th, 7pm; Westvaco Room
- Advocacy Sub-Committee for Letter to the Editor – D. Lodge; June 2nd, 6-7pm; Panera Bread
- Karen White Tea – Sandra Baden, June 5, 2-4pm; Grace Lutheran Church. Books cost \$20.50 if returnable or \$16.50, non-returnable.

New Business:

Announcements/ For the Good of the Order:

Ellen Hyatt referenced the fable, "The Blind Men and the Elephant," and handed out print-outs of what an elephant would look like when each of the six blind men described a particular part of the elephant. For instance, the body would feel like a wall; the tusk, a spear; the trunk, a rope, etc. The fable is a reminder for each of us volunteering as Friends of the library that "seeing" is important, as is working together to communicate clearly. For when individuals are "blinded" by their own opinions, each one will be "partly right" while still being "wrong."

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Mevelyn Williams, Secretary

July 8, 2016