

Friends of the Milton Library
Monthly Business Meeting
Milton, FL
March 13, 2008

The meeting of the Friends of the Milton Library was called to order by President Peggy Toifel on March 13, 2008 at 1:35 PM in the meeting room of the Milton Library. Margie Smith, a new member of the Friends, was introduced and welcomed to the meeting. The agenda was approved. The minutes from the February 14, 2008 meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was approved with a balance of \$7,234.64. Peggy then called for committee reports.

Finance – A Budget worksheet was presented that included actual expenses and income to date through February. The Children's Program budget has been increased by \$50 due to a donation for the summer reading program being received. The ongoing book sales are down. We need to make \$500 a month in order to make the budget of \$6,000 for the year.

Program – Peggy Toifel and Joan McLendon attended a Chamber of Commerce meeting. It was learned that we can qualify for a bulk mail rate of \$0.24 for 200 letters if we go through them.

Membership – We have approximately 130 members.

Publicity/Newsletter – Peggy would like to add some professional groups to the mail out of the next newsletter in order to raise awareness.

Sunshine/Hospitality – Nothing sent out this month.

Historian/Scrapbook – There are 3 new names to add to the quilt; one is Judy Jolly.

Book Sales – There have been no donations of books to any of the libraries. We need to start publicizing the book sale on May 2 -3 and that donations can be made now. Bagdad Market Day is also scheduled for May 3.

Special Projects – Book Bags are going to be purchased for the Library Foundation to sell countywide for \$15. It will take 6 weeks to receive them because they have custom graphics. Peggy proposed buying one for the Friends group to sell at the Book Sale. Costs are \$2.75 each if we order 200 (total of \$550) plus a \$30 set up fee. They would be one color printed with graphics. They could be ordered on Tuesday and should be ready in 3 weeks. We would sell them for \$10. A motion was made by Harvey Kingry and seconded by Ned France that we proceed with the order. The motion was approved.

Legislative – There is a bill pending in the state legislature for a more equitable distribution of state aid. The maximum building grant that will be approved by the legislature this year is \$500,000.

Meeting Room Upkeep – There have not been any contributions in the box in the back. We will move the cokes from the refrigerator in the meeting room to the refrigerator in the book shed.

Library Task Force – There is a Breakfast/Lunch/Mixer every month for the Chamber of Commerce. Someone will be going to each of these and taking brochures and a PR package about the library. We may use book bags as door prizes at Chamber meetings. We can now announce that we want to buy the funeral home.

SRC Library Foundation – A small group attended the workshop in February. There is \$10,000 in the fund so far.

SRC Joint Friends – The next meeting is scheduled for April 14 at 5PM at the Navarre Library. The new volunteer program will be rolled out at the meeting.

SRC Library Administration – Linda Hendrix spoke on the status of the library system. Milton is the busiest library, however, for 2 months last summer Pace was the busiest. Current emphasis is on updating the core collections, with particular emphasis on the Youth and Nonfiction Sections. The Library has 2 outstanding invoices for playaways – the Friends are being asked to contribute. We agreed that we would pay the invoice for \$1,800 due to our cashflow constraints.

Milton Library Manager – Gwen Wilson brought in the new Playaways. These are MP3 players with a book recorded on them. They can be checked out like a book. There are also lanyards and headphones for sale (\$1.00 each) if you need/want them to go with the playaways. The money from the sale of these items goes to the Foundation. Benefits of the playaways include portability for patrons, they are less expensive than books on CDs (\$50 - \$70 for MP3 vs. \$70 - \$100 for CDs), and they are less likely than CDs to be lost. Gwen stated the self-checkout continues to go well. The Large Print display that was set up in the front of the library caused many of the books to be checked out. The Teen group, Bookworms, started this week with 5 people attending. Two people are going to bring a friend next week.

Old Business:

Genealogy – The Library staff and volunteers are continuing to keep this section staffed.

New Business:

Volunteer Program – Peggy Toifel is the Volunteer Coordinator for the County Library System. There will be 5 or 6 job descriptions that people can volunteer for. An application will be available at each library. There will be a background check required by the county and it will cost \$32. RSVP will advertise for volunteers. The motion was made by Ann Lawrence and seconded by Maureen Nicholson that the Friends will be a station for RSVP. The motion was approved.

Fundraising Ideas – Peggy Toifel has begun asking people to come to lunch with her and to bring \$10 to donate. They in turn are asked to come back next week and bring another friend. Other ideas are to have a “Where Pigs Fly” campaign. We ask local children to decorate piggybanks and we put them out at various merchants for donations. Also mentioned were fundraising nights at Bingo and local restaurants and merchants.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mitzi DuBois
Secretary