

**Friends of the Poughkeepsie Library District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
15 February 2006**

Members present: Bronwen Beaudette, Peter Bergamo, Gail Brittain, Sue Brooke, Christine Cuttler, Ruth Detjen, David Ferenz, Julius Jones, Jackie Klein (Vice President), Mark Nelson (Secretary), Richard Placke, and Karl Zetterholm.

PPLD representatives present: Janet Huen and Tom Lawrence.

The Vice President called the meeting to order at 5:29 P.M. The minutes of the January meeting were accepted as published, with minor corrections.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer presented our 2005 year and January 2006 report. Expenses for January included the propane heater and propane. Membership receipts are doing well. The PPLD will be presenting their 2006 funding request at the next meeting. The FPPLD now requires that any expenses that are submitted for reimbursement must be accompanied by a FPPLD voucher form. Forms are available from Christine and will be in the FPPLD work area at the library.

President's Report: (Jackie Klein) Suzanne is looking into insurance for the FPPLD. Tom reports that the PPLD covers the FPPD for liability issues, including for High Street and our book sales. Contents coverage (up to \$45,000) for High Street is included on for off-premises coverage. Directors and Officers insurance is not covered; however, traditionally not-for-profit groups are most at risk from hiring decisions, an issue which does not affect the FPPLD.

We have asked the Mid-Hudson Library System to review our bylaws. Sorting is going well, but is currently being done only in the morning. Afternoon sessions may be arranged if there is sufficient interest.

The High Street building is on the market, which means that if the building is sold, we may have to move our materials out. Tom Lawrence has suggested that we consider the purchase of our own storage space as a long-term solution.

PPLD Report: (Tom Lawrence): The Alexander Hamilton Exhibit was extremely successful. The 13 January 2006 presentation drew 150 attendees. The follow-on lectures were equally successful, drawing 100 attendees on average. Three school groups came to visit the exhibit, with FPPLD members volunteering as docents for the exhibit. The overwhelming response to the exhibit demonstrates that the community has a thirst for these types of events and the need for space for events such as these.

The PPLD has applied for a grant to host a similar exhibit on Abraham Lincoln.

After considerable review and discussion, the PPLD has withdrawn the plan for the Southwood expansion. Due to this withdrawal, the renovation of Adriance has been separated from the Southwood project. The withdrawal was due to the lack of popular support for a new facility at Southwood. The PPLD will work with the Town of Poughkeepsie to ensure that the new library facility is consistent with the Town of Poughkeepsie Master Plan, which is currently being revised. This plan calls for the new library to be in either the town center (Raymond Avenue) or one of its "emerging centers". Raymond Avenue has no properties which are available.

The PPLD is revising the Adriance renovation plan to address the issues with the Adriance facility and

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put this on the November ballot. This means that some of the Southwood facilities would have to come back to Adriaance. The Arlington library will be smaller than the Southwood facility, which increases the number of potential sites. The town will be assisting with the search process.

Committee Reports:

- **Book Sale:** (Peter Bergamo): Marist College is available for a June sale. The college is willing to waive its fees and provide assistance with setup and tear-down. However, the space is small. This may be our only option if South Hills Mall is not available. Frank is continuing to pursue with SHM management. The Vassar College Field House is not available; however, Vassar is interested in assisting the FPPLD with other events. Oakwood has volunteered a space; Frank will check it out shortly. The Armory is available, however, we would have to pay for security (based on expected traffic), parking is difficult, and one out of every four attendees must be frisked. The Civic Center is expensive and shows no flexibility with our setup and tear-down. The former Franks Nursery has been suggested and will be investigated. The former Shop Rite at 44 Plaza was suggested as well.

Fund Development (Christine Cuttler/Theresa Kerin): As of 9 February, 19,000+ from 315 donors, which represents a slight per-capita increase and several new donors. \$1900+ in corporate matching gifts was received as well. Follow-up letters have been sent to prior-year donors who have not contributed. Cutoff for the appeal is 31 March.

New Business

Committee Assignments: Committee assignments were distributed. The President has appointed the initial chair of each committee; the initial chair is responsible for calling the first meeting at which time the committee may choose another chair.

Lobby Day (14 March 2006): The FPPLD has been asked to assist in sponsoring a bus to Albany to allow library advocates to speak with legislative officials for Lobby day. A motion to allocate \$300 was passed unanimously. Members who want to attend should contact Suzanne Christensen.

Friends Focus Group: Area library Friends groups are meeting on Tuesday, 28 March, 6:30 PM-8:00PM at the Starr Library in Rhinebeck. The intent of the meeting is to provide feedback on the Mid-Hudson Library System (MHLS) five-year plan. Details and registration information is at <http://www.midhudson.org>.

MHLS Consultations: The MHLS provides consultation services for Libraries and Friends groups on many topics of interest. One of these is how friends groups can be advocates for libraries. We will be inviting the MHLS to speak to the board at a future meeting.

National Library Week: National Library Week is the week of 5 April. This will be the week of the "Read-Aloud" event. Celebrity hosts for the event are TBD.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 PM. The next meeting will be on 15 March 2006 at 5:30 PM at Adriaance Memorial Library.