

FOTL Board Meeting 9/18/15

Friends Of Tennessee Libraries Board of Directors met on Friday, September 18, 2015, at the Bentwood Public Library in Bentwood, Tennessee. A tour of the library was given by Library Director Susan Earl. The Meeting was Called To Order at 10:35AM by President Don Reynolds. A Quorum Was Present.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Connie Albrecht, Gerald Beavers, Martha Gill, Wanda Graham, Janis Perry, Larry Price, Don Reynolds, Dwight Shepherd, Lynette Sloan, William Sundquist, and (arriving later) Susie Ries.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESENT: Julie Webb.

The Minutes of the Previous Meeting were Approved As Submitted. There were thank you notes from the Putnam County Library and Wanda Jared thanking the group for their donation to the Putnam County Library in memory of Ed Jared.

The Treasurer's Report was Approved As Submitted.

The President reviewed all the positions that are currently open. The group has needs for a **Membership Chair, Enews/Legislative Contact, Treasurer, one West Division Representative, three Middle Division Representatives, and two East Division Representatives.** Connie Albrecht is serving as Interim Treasurer, and is temporarily handling the responsibilities of Membership Chair.

The Governor's Proclamation of Tennessee Friends of Libraries Week was presented. Everyone was asked to pass along information about local events and media coverage to the President and the Newsletter Editor.

Martha Gill reported **FOTL now has over 800 likes on Facebook.** She has established a goal for that there will be a committee actively gathering and reporting information for the newsletter and Facebook. There is a desire to be able to share more postings to the Facebook page about the activities of local Friends groups.

It was reported that **FOTL would be doing In Service Program presentations for the Regional Libraries at their next round of In Service training.**

William Sundquist and Janis Perry gave a report on **National Legislative Day in Washington, D.C.** The big issue this year was net neutrality. The American Library Association held a briefing on Sunday before National Legislative Day for first timers that was very useful.

It was reported that **FOTL is putting together a presentation for Trustee Workshops across the state.** The presentation is called "Care and Feeding of Friends." It will cover starting/maintaining/revitalizing Friends groups.

The Friends and Trustees Luncheon as part of Tennessee Library Association Annual Meeting will be in April in Kingsport. FOTL is responsible for selecting the speaker. The President is working on getting the President-Elect of United for Libraries as the speaker. **The Tennessee Friend of the Year Award will be presented at this luncheon.** This could be the first time that two Friend of the Year Awards could be given, since the recent decision to split the award into two categories based on size of the library served. The Trustee of the Year Award will also be presented at this time.

There was **discussion about the FOTL Annual Meeting on April 23 in Clarksville. Gerald Beavers Made a Motion to recognize former Secretary of State Riley Darnell for his outstanding support of libraries during his service in that position. MOTION CARRIED.**

There was a lunch break from 12:32-12:56PM.

The Possible Activities for 2015-16 was reviewed with notes as to what had been accomplished so far and what was currently being worked on.

Lynette Sloan **reported that the State Library had created a Standards Survey to track movement towards meeting the new Tennessee Standards for Non-Metropolitan Libraries.** This will be done on an annual basis. The first one has just been completed to establish a baseline. It was noted that one of the standards is that all libraries should have a Friends group.

It was **reported that there is some confusion over the State's requirements and fees for Registration for Charitable Solicitation.** Susie Ries made a Motion to Remove the option for giving donations from the FOTL website until this could be clarified. MOTION CARRIED.

There was **discussion on ways to give recognition to Friends groups that support and are involved with Imagination Library.**

Gill made a **Motion to renew FOTL's membership in United for Libraries.**

Beavers made a **Motion to Adopt The Ethical Dozen for Friends of the Library As Amended. MOTION CARRIED.**

Meeting Adjourned at 2:21PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dwight W. Shepherd, Secretary

DIVISION REPORTS

Middle Division:

Millersville Public Library: The Grand Opening of the Millersville Public Library was held on Monday, August 24, 2015 and was attended by Secretary of State Tre Hargett, Red River Regional Library Director Becky Bailey, and many other local dignitaries. MPL does not yet have a Friends group but Director Ginger Graves is working to develop one and we have offered to assist where we can. We furnished her with some basic materials to help in the process.

Stokes Brown Public Library (Gorham-Macbane Public Library): As of September 26, 2015, the Gorham-MacBane Public Library has the name changed to now be the Stokes Brown Public Library. The Grand Opening of the new section will be held on September 26, 2015 and I will attend. The Friends book sales have done well and earned \$966 for July and August.

Houston County Library: Houston County Friends of the Library in partnership with the Houston County Arts Council is hosting their 3rd annual youth Creative Hands and Minds (Creative Art and Creative Writing Contest). The deadline for entries is Sept 25. Judging will occur Saturday Oct. 3, 2015 and a reception for all students who entered will be held on Nov. 9, 2015 at Erin City Hall from 6-8p.m.

Clarksville/Montgomery County Library: Library Strategies and the Board of Trustees made a presentation to the Montgomery County Commissioners on the proposed Library Expansion Plan on September 8, 2015. The plan calls for a library system consisting of the main library, a full-service library to be built in northwest Clarksville, a smaller technology library for children to be built in the northeast area, and three express library access points in the far west, southeast and southwest sections of Clarksville. The summer reading program went exceedingly well, as did the lock-in for teens. The Library is changing the look of library cards to be more modern. The number of new patrons increased by 22% over last year.

Events Committee Report

Annual Meetings:

In June 2015 the board decided the date of the annual meeting would be between mid-April and mid-May of each year.

Develop a proposed date and location for the FOTL annual meeting.

Work with the Executive Committee to develop a program for those meetings. Work with the local Friends group to organize the annual meeting.

Could incorporate a "Friends Extravaganza" for Friends groups to display various activities and special events for their group. Details to be worked out.

Research:

We will have to be working with libraries and Friends groups in each of the three divisions. It is suggested we do some basic research and make a list of every library in every county, list the director, list the contact information. This would not clearly fall within the purview of any of the committees which we formed so it should probably be done by the Board. The reason proposed to do it is that we will have a need for it from some of the items listed below.

Do survey of attendees at most recent annual meetings to determine good points, weak points, and ways to improve future meetings. This would require e-mail addresses of all attendees.

Division Meetings:

Possible Holiday event around Thanksgiving.

Our subgroup made a recommendation that our top priority consisted of the two proposed activities of the year of a) holding a meeting for divisional representatives in each Grand Division and b) holding a meeting with Friends group representatives in each region. It is these activities that require the research listed above.

Review FOTL programs and resources
Develop in-service training sessions for new Friends groups
Develop in-service training sessions for presently organized Friends groups
Develop plans to help libraries form Friends groups
Plan and host a meeting with Friends group representatives in each region

Fund raising possibilities Officer training sessions

Annual Meeting Update:

1. Friends of the Clarksville/Montgomery County Public Library have agreed to host the annual FOTL meeting on April 23, 2016.
2. The local annual meeting committee has decided to hold the event at the CMC Public Library.
3. The local committee will rent circular tables seating eight each to promote better discussion and interplay among participants.
4. The local committee will seek bids from local caterers for the two meals beginning in October, 2015.
5. The local committee is presently collecting door prizes for the annual meeting.
6. The local committee is considering hosting a Friday night event at the Austin Peay State University Emerald Hill location. This is an historical building with fascinating architecture. The committee will have some minor refreshments and possibly music from an APSU ensemble of some sort.
7. A block of rooms at the Riverview Inn will be booked in January, 2016.
8. Former Secretary of State Riley Darnell has agreed to speak at the annual meeting.
9. County Mayor Jim Durrett, Library Director Martha Hendricks, and CMC Friends president Anne Black will give brief welcoming statements.
10. The executive committee is presently working to develop an agenda.
11. Susie Ries has many items for the packets for attendees.