

Mount Vernon Library
Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2013
5:30 p.m.
Fire Station #3 at 4701 E. Division St.
Mount Vernon, WA

Attended by Marija Anderson, Kathy Combs, Peter Goldfarb, Sara Holahan, Troy Kunz, Harold Page, Sara Patton, Kelly Reep, Chuck Smith, and Brian Soneda. Guests: Dan Parkin

I. CALL TO ORDER: President Harold Page called the meeting to order at 5:30. He then took the opportunity to welcome Peter Goldfarb to the 21st Century in recognition of his purchase of a computer and email accessibility.

II. MINUTES: Kathy Combs made a motion to approve the minutes; Marija Anderson seconded and the motion carried. Harold stated that new wording was needed to clarify the motion electing the new board members. Sara Patton will change the wording as suggested.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT: Chuck Smith handed out the Treasurer's Report showing a balance of \$8,235.78 as of January 31, 2013. Expenses for the month were for stamps and the December event. Income was from memberships and donations. He also asked that any purchasing be coordinated through him.

Harold reported that, with the election of a new treasurer, Skagit State Bank needed additional information for the new signature cards. They asked for a copy of the minutes showing Chuck Smith as the new Treasurer; the names to be included on the Signature Card: Chuck Smith and Harold Page; the removal of the name of the former treasurer, Pam McNaughton; and the account number-----. Peter made a motion to give them this information and Kathy seconded. The motion carried. It was also explained that either Harold or Chuck can sign checks. Sara will check the By Laws to see if there is an expenditure amount that would require Board approval.

IV. Old Business

A. Library Foundation Event/Video Presentation: Kelly Reep brought us up to date on plans for the "Leave a Legacy" celebration to be held at Max Dales Steak and Chop House. She explained that the date was changed to March 15 to give us additional planning time. The invitation list was updated with the help of Kathy Combs. Harold designed the invitation and had 300 copies printed which Board members stuffed into envelopes during the meeting. They will be mailed the following day, thanks to Marija, Chuck and Sara Holahan. Kelly also asked for volunteers to make follow-up phone calls on March 4th to those who had not responded to the RSVPs. Kathy and Marija offered to help.

Harold pointed out that the committee wanted to keep the evening as sociable and "fun" as possible. In addition to tasty appetizers and wine, the highlights of the evening will include an MC (Kelly is checking with Mike Yeoman to see if he is available) to keep things rolling; a talk by the Mayor explaining her goals and time line for a new facility; a photo display board of other libraries in our area; a video interview of children concerning their experience at the library; input cards or computer access to allow guests to add their views on what they would like to see in a new library; and a gift for guests to remind them of the library project.

Harold explained the ideas for gifts based on the theme of "Love Your Library, Leave A Legacy." Stones imprinted with the motto were considered but may be too pricey. Another idea was small seedlings of trees that could be planted and would last more than a lifetime, fitting the "legacy" idea. Roger Ragusa of Wells Nursery has generously offered to donate 300 small Douglas Firs in little pots, into which we can put a small card with the motto.

Kelly noted she will be meeting with Max Dales to determine the room set-up for the evening. Currently the suggestion is to have the food tables near the entry to the room so that people could mingle with ease. Peter offered to assist Kelly with looking at the set-up and possible decorations of potted plants, hopefully donated (or loaned) by local nurseries.

Kelly also announced that the Swinomish Casino has offered to print the photos of the libraries for display. They have a new, state of the art printer and will be doing the work as an in-kind donation. Sara Patton will be taking photos of more than thirty libraries in the Seattle-Mt. Vernon area.

Kelly explained that until we know the number of attendees, the budget is fairly fluid but probably more than what Chuck had originally estimated in the annual budget. After a discussion of costs, Sara Holahan made a motion to authorize the committee to spend up to \$2500 for the "Leave a Legacy" event on March 15th. Troy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

B. Video Presentation: Harold described plans for the video presentation which will be shot by the City camera crew. He hopes that the final product will be seen at the March event but would also appear on Mount Vernon TV and for use as a fund-raising tool. He thought it would take about an hour of filming but be edited down to 4-5 minutes of actual air time.

The video will feature Jason Leander, one of our local school teachers, talking with several children about what they like best about libraries. The problem has been setting up a time that the film crew, the children and Jason could all get together. Kelly hopes to create little goodie bags as a thank-you for the children who participate.

C. Membership Update: Sarah Holahan reported that she attended the Chamber of Commerce and Lions Club meetings to put in a pitch for Library Foundation membership. Harold also asked Sara Patton to follow up with Suzanne Gilbert to see if she plans on attending any meetings. He will follow up with Greg Tate who has also missed numerous meetings.

D. "Planned Giving" Letter: Troy has finished the final draft of the "Planned Giving" letter to be sent to local Financial Advisors, CPAs, and attorneys. He will be sending the draft to Harold for final approval before sending it out.

V. New Business

A. Library Director's Report: Brian Soneda reported that the site survey of the Higgins property was scheduled to begin soon. He also noted that one of the Mayor's initiatives was to promote the POD concept in City government, bringing various departments together in small units. This will promote better communication, coordinated project development, and cooperative marketing and public relations. The Library and Parks and Recreation were identified as two departments that would work well together to serve the community at large. Thus a new facility that would have joint use as a library/community center would serve a broader public base and ultimately aid in fund-raising by appealing to a larger audience.

B. Strategic Plan Heads Up: Sara Patton reminded everyone that after the Leave A Legacy event was over, we would be seeking specific direction from the Mayor as to the Foundation's role in moving forward. She referred to various goals and strategies outlined in the Strategic Plan as well as the Mayor's own time line, noting that everything hinged on the outcome of the Higgins Property site survey.

C. Agenda for the Next Meeting: Harold would like to see us concentrate on talking points for the Leave a Legacy event. He pointed out the importance of Foundation directors to take the opportunity to talk with community leaders about the library, to answer as many questions as we can, and to be on the same page as far as our "message" is concerned. He encouraged us to wear our Foundation name tags. Sara Patton also suggested having stick on name tags for guests to wear, making it easier to know who you are talking to.

The next Foundation meeting will be held Monday, March 11, at 5:30 pm. There being no other new business or comments and questions, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Patton, Secretary