

# **FRIENDS OF THE ADRIAN PUBLIC LIBRARY**

## **INITIAL MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 4, 2012**

The meeting was called to order by the Library Director, Carol Souchock, at 10:10 A.M. in the meeting room of the Adrian Public Library with 29 potential members present.

Carol began by introducing the members of the steering committee, and had other members of the audience introduce themselves. She then explained what a Friends group could do to promote and support the library. One of the first and foremost opportunities for the group will be the annual book sale, which will take place on April 7, 9, and 10. Help will be needed for the book sale itself and for setup prior to the sale, and for teardown after the sale.

The next item on the agenda was the introduction and approval of the proposed bylaws. Carol used a presentation to go through each Article. Several suggestions were made for changes, which were made. A motion was made by Diane Meyers to accept the bylaws as presented with the changes; second by Jan Parson. Discussion was called, and a vote was unanimous by all present.

Nominations for officers were then called. The first officer to be voted on was the President. There being no nominations from the floor, Lois Curtis volunteered to accept the nomination. A motion was made by Rhonda Gage, second by David Guldin, to elect Lois as President. The vote was unanimous.

There being no nominations from the floor for the office of Vice President, Timothy Heermann volunteered to accept the nomination. A motion was made by David Guldin, second by Rhonda Gage to elect Timothy as Vice President. The vote was unanimous.

Nominations were called for the office of Secretary. Lois Curtis nominated Sandra Gerhart. There being no further nominations, David Guldin made a motion, second by Carol Walter, to elect Sandra Secretary. The vote was unanimous.

The last officer to be elected was the Treasurer. There being no nominations from the floor, Rhonda Gage volunteered to accept the nomination. Timothy Heermann made a motion, second by Sandra Gerhart, to elect Rhonda Treasurer. The vote was unanimous.

According to the Bylaws approved at this meeting, these officers will hold office until the vote at the Annual Meeting in 2013, with the new officers taking office in January, 2014.

Carol explained a proposed dues structure, and showed the group a proposed membership brochure. Several suggestions were given concerning the layout of the brochure, and were duly noted by Carol. The proposed dues structure calls for a \$10 senior and student membership; a \$15 individual membership; a \$25 family membership; and a \$100 business and organization membership. A motion was made by Don Taylor, second by Diane Meyers to accept this dues structure. After discussion, the vote was unanimous.

Carol displayed various suggested logos. An informal count was made on each logo presented, and number 3 (as shown) was the logo with the highest number of votes.

Incorporation and nonprofit options were presented by Carol. Dane Nelson, the City Administrator, has strongly suggested we incorporate as a nonprofit with the State of Michigan. The main purpose of such incorporation with the State would be to eliminate certain liabilities for the officers. The fee will be \$20, and Mr. Nelson has said he would do the necessary paperwork. A motion was made by Diane Meyers, second by Mary Lou Balasz to incorporate was proposed. The vote was unanimous.

The last item to be discussed was nonprofit options. Carol explained that the two main options were:

1. File our own paperwork with the IRS and setup our own checking accounts, Etc.
2. Establish a relationship with the Lenawee Community Foundation.

Sue Hammersmith, the President and CEO of the Lenawee Community Foundation explained the benefits of such a relationship. Because they are a nonprofit organization, they would file any necessary reports with the IRS. The Foundation would establish a Fund in the name of the Friends, and would issue all checks and accept all monies collected. After discussion of both, a motion was made by Timothy Heermann, second by Erick Gable to join with the Lenawee Community Foundation. The vote was unanimous with Sue Hammersmith abstaining.

Various upcoming programs with volunteer opportunities were presented by Carol Souchock. They include Dr. Seuss on March 1, First Friday on March 2, and Leaping In Lenawee on March 10.

The first regular meeting of The Friends will be on February 18, 2012 at 10 am with the book sale planning as the main topic. The next regular meeting will be May 19 at 10 am.

The meeting adjourned with membership registrations.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Curtis, Acting Secretary