

**FRIENDS OF GEORGIA LIBRARIES BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING: AUGUST 19, 2010**  
**McDONOUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**Attending:**

**Voting Members:** Kathy Ash, Liz Camp, Pat Carterette, Arlys Ferrell, Claudia Gibson, Lynn Lilly, Bede Mitchell, Jim Shehy, Dortha Stinson,

**Ex officio Members:** Lorene Flanders, Jane Hildebrand, Elaine Black

**Welcome and Introductions:** President Bede Mitchell introduced new board member Lorene Flanders, as an ex-officio member, holding the Regents Academic Committee on Libraries position. He also announced the departure of Chuck Gibson, who took an out-of-state position.

**Approval of Minutes, June 20, 2010 Board Meeting:** The minutes were approved as distributed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Arlys Ferrell read a report showing FOGL has a current balance of \$3800.52. Through July 31, 2010, there's been \$110 in income and \$952.62 in expenses for travel expenses and reimbursement. It was noted that this was a lower balance than in the past at this point in the year.

Bede Mitchell asked that a message be added to the newsletter reminding readers that donations are accepted in addition to memberships.

**Twiggs County Library:** Members discussed making a donation to help the Twiggs County Library recover from their fire. It was decided to hold off on making a donation since the organization's funds are lower than usual and the expenses of the Fall workshops are upcoming. We will add a message to the newsletter inviting local friends groups to donate. We'll also repeat the message and the Fall workshops and collect donations on site.

**National Friends of Libraries Week, October 17-23, 2010:** The group discussed adding information about this week to the FOGL website and inviting members to send photos and ideas. Bede Mitchell will contact Lamarr Veatch, Georgia State Librarian, about the possibility of Governor Purdue issuing a state proclamation. Dortha Stinson remarked that local Friends groups, including her own have the county commissioners proclaim the day.

**Fall Workshops Review**

Two locations have been selected:

South Georgia: Southwest Branch of Live Oak System in Savannah, September 25, 2010 is confirmed. Claudia Gibson will contact Library Director about providing continental breakfast

and for a recommendation on lunch caterers. *Claudia later reported by email about Savannah's willingness to provide breakfast and assistance.*

North Georgia: Mary Willis Library in Washington, October 30, 2010. Reservation paperwork has been submitted by Bede Mitchell, awaiting expected confirmation. He will contact the Library Director about providing continental breakfast and for a recommendation on lunch caterers. Once the author speaker is finalized, we'll work with a local bookstore to provide the speaker's books and may approach them about providing other discounts.

The event overview remains the same, and will be noted in the newsletter

Schedule:

9 a.m. Registration will begin with a continental breakfast available

10 a.m. Program: Much Ado about Authors: How to Have a Successful Author Event

12 noon Box lunches

12:30 Author speaker and book signing

1:30 Adjournment

Registration can be handled on line, payment by mail or on site. Registration cut-off is a week in advance. Cost will remain \$20 for FOGL members and \$30 for non-members.

We will give two hours of Continuing Education Units to attendees. Pat Carterette will send Bede Mitchell the link to get the program registered for CEU credits.

Bede Mitchell noted that Board Members do pay to attend, and that while members are urged to attend the workshop in their region, they're not expected to attend both.

**Committee work and reports:** Bede Mitchell gave an overview of each committee's responsibility and there was a general group discussion of ideas. This was followed by committee breakout sessions and reports.

**Board Development Committee:** No members have volunteered for this committee. We will consider it a committee of the whole for the time being and are urged to seek out new board members. There is room to expand the board and there will be vacancies to fill in April.

**Finance Committee Report:** Members: Arlys Ferrell, Jim Shehy. The committee reviewed FOGL's financial history. While income is lower than in the past, the balance is healthy because the organization is spending less than expected. They will be developing a financial plan for the future.

**Marketing Committee Report:** Members: Lynn Lilly and Lorene Flanders. The committee views the newsletter as an idea exchange of content useful to members. Topics discussed included soliciting and sharing ideas from local Friends groups; communicating useful resources,

such as ALA; reporting data on library use and funding; explaining how to lobby legislators for libraries; and profiling Georgia authors. The newsletter would also report how FOGL supports local libraries through workshops, National Library Advocacy Day, etc.

Board discussion suggested moving the newsletter as much as possible to email. The next issue of the newsletter will go out by early September.

The committee will also work with Lyn Hopper to increase use of the FOGL Facebook page and explore public relations linked to events like Georgia Library Legislative Day in February.

**Membership Committee Report:** Members: Pat Catarett and Lamar Veatch. The committee will work on cleaning up the membership database and listserve of current and former members. Bede Mitchell reported that Lamar Veatch is focused on developing corporate membership to build our credibility and funding. Claudia Gibson suggested exploring taking PayPal to enable online membership and workshop payments. Arlys Ferrell will check into it.

The committee proposed moving from rolling membership to a January 1-December 31 year. This will make tracking membership and promoting renewal easier. We will begin promoting the new plan as part of the Fall Workshop registration and event. A membership begun or renewed for the workshop will carry through December 31, 2011. The committee may recommend raising membership dues by \$5 for this year only since most members will receive 14 months of membership for their 1-year dues.

They will revise the membership form to add the membership effective date and ask for email addresses for communication. An opt-out option will be provided.

They are also considering sending end-of-year reminders that FOGL accepts donations since this is the time people are considering charitable giving.

**Awards, Promotion and Judging Committee Report:** Members: Liz Camp and Claudia Gibson. The committee requested that the newsletter solicit nominations for Best Friends and Fabulous Friends. Information and nomination forms will be placed on the website. We will also promote it at the Fall Workshops. Nominations are due December 31, 2010. The committee will choose finalists and the full Board will select the winners to be announced at the April Annual Meeting.

The committee will also add the current winners to the website.

**FOL Support Services Committee Report:** Members: Dortha Stinson and Annie Maxwell. The committee will develop an online resource library for local Friends groups. The library would include templates for promotional or event materials, including bookmarks, posters etc. To aid Friends with their book sales, the committee will look into providing links or resources for getting old or rare books appraised. They will also develop resources on how to build a web page, perhaps including design and hosting resources. If FOGL decides to add PayPal to its website, the committee would develop that into an online how-to resource.

**Programming and Professional Education Committee Report:** Members: Kathy Ash, Jim Wooten, Bill Starr and Terry Kay. The committee reported that the theme of the Fall Workshops will be “Much Ado about Authors.” As reported earlier, this workshop will focus on how to have a successful author event, covering topics including finding authors, promotion, author relations and hospitality.

The committee also reported preliminary plans for the Spring Meeting. The proposed location is the Cobb County Central Library on April 9, April 2 or March 26. The theme is “The Care and Feeding of Friends Groups” and will focus on growing and strengthening the local groups, including a session of website creation. The group is considering food author Alton Brown for speaker.

**Announcements and Other Business:** Bede Mitchell shared a request from Jackson for someone from the FOGL Speaker’s Bureau to address their group. Liz Camp volunteered. Liz Camp thanked everyone for allowing her to represent FOGL at Library Advocacy Day in Washington, DC.

FOGL will have an information booth at the Georgia Literary Festival in Statesboro, October 23. Bede will get the current flyers from GPLS and have membership forms.

**Next Board Meeting:** The next board meeting is set for Wednesday, November 10 at 11 am at the McDonough Library.

Respectfully submitted by Lynn Lilly