

Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library
Minutes of the meeting of April 18, 2017

President Ellen Dewey opened the business meeting by introducing and welcoming Board members Martha Nemechek and Felicity Meunier, along with all the members. Before starting the formal meeting, Linda Greenwell spoke about an artist, Jonathan Brilliant, who would be featured at the Hickory Museum of Art from April 26-May 4. She distributed some information and photos about the artist's unique work, which includes large sculptures made of coffee sticks.

The minutes of the February 17, 2017 business meeting were distributed for review by the members. On motion and second, the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Jan Harrison provided details of all income and expenses for the period from Sept. 21, 2016 through April 17, 2017. Major income sources were the library foyer book donations, almost \$1,800, and sales of Christmas wreaths, \$2,200. Primary costs were the costs of the wreaths, almost \$1,200, and the Literacy program materials. Total balances are now approximately \$69,000. This amount includes the funds donated by Martha Nemechek in 2016 and earmarked for literacy programs for children.

Committee Reports: Ellen asked for volunteers for the nominating committee which will present a slate of officers to be voted in at the June 20th social. Felicity Meunier, Joyce O'Neal and Flo Hollands volunteered. Information will be available in the newsletter. Meg Thompson reported on the continued success of the literacy book-reading program in the SF and Catawba elementary schools. Linda Greenwell, Joyce O'Neal, and Joanie Gardner agreed to form the Program Committee for the upcoming year.

Membership: Ellen reported that we now have 95 members. All members will be contacted and we will begin accepting renewal payments for the year beginning July 1, 2017. The membership committee chairperson position is still open. Ellen also announced that a new Vision Committee had been formed, comprised of the four Board members, the four officers, and four others who had been active in the continuous work and possibly have held officer positions in the past. The first task of this committee will be to draft a new mission statement, to be approved by the members. Over the summer, the members of this committee will meet and explore what ways we can expand the SFTFOL to enhance the library experience, with new technologies changing the way we used to think of libraries.

Library News: Suzanne White presented a brief update of the activities in the Catawba County Library system. She also announced that the Library system was the recipient of the second place prize in the "Library Aware" national competition. The prize was \$7,500.

Jenny Gerami-Markam presented a summary of the proposed 2017 Summer Learning program, now that the events were confirmed. The theme is "Building a Better World" which will be presented around the concepts of "STEAM," which incorporates science, technology, engineering, arts, and math. As a follow up to the discussion at the February meeting, SFTFOL was asked to fund \$2,025 for seven programs. On motion and second this

request was approved. Martha Nemechek stated that she would like those funds to come from her Comcast Community Champion Award Fund. Thank you, Martha!

There was general discussion regarding the American Girl dolls purchased by the FOL for youngsters to check out. They are very much in demand, and this prompted suggestions for other selections, such as a GI Joe doll kit, or the American Girl male doll, or the Snap Circuits or Little Bits kits. These will be looked into once more in the fall.

Ellen distributed a draft proposal for an update to our mission statement, and an enthusiastic discussion ensued. There were varying views regarding the statement's purpose and the desired content. After many suggestions, it was decided that the Vision Committee would take a look at some of the ideas and draft a final version to present to the members in June.

The next meeting will be a joint program, featuring Jacky Eubanks, Planning Director for Catawba County, who will provide an update on county parks, and Dr. Amber Clawson Albert, Director of the Historical Association of Catawba County, who will speak about Bunker Hill Bridge. The meeting is scheduled for May 16, at 6:30.

Finally, Ellen reminded everyone that the June annual social and election of officers and board members will be June 20, also at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol B. Meyer, Secretary