

SELS Friends  
Board Meeting  
Wednesday, October 21, 2009  
Lincoln City Libraries, Walt Branch  
Lincoln, NE

**Board members present:** President Becky Baker, Tom Schmitz, Lisa Olivigni, and Karen Frank. Jan Thomsen was absent and excused.

**1. Call to order:** Becky called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m.

**2. Approval of minutes from July 18, 2009:** On a motion by Karen, second by Lisa, the minutes were approved as presented. Motion carried.

**3. Financial report:**

Current financial report – Two recent expenditures were discussed. These included \$1509.50 for the licensing of SELS' new van and a \$750.00 loan to SELS to assist with a cash flow issue. Lisa provided the motion for SELS Friends to not require the repayment by SELS of the \$750.00 loan. Karen seconded it. Motion carried.

Moving finances to another bank with more locations for access – Lisa has spoken with Union Bank about a checking account for the Friends. As long as the account isn't below a \$500.00 balance per month, there are no fees. If the balance is below that amount, there is a \$10.00 monthly fee. The bank will require documentation of Friends officers and names/signatures of those who will be able to access the checking account. Both Becky and Lisa will need to complete signature cards. Karen moved that Lisa proceed with the process of obtaining a new bank account and working with Jenni Puchalla for the transfer of funds. Tom seconded. Motion carried.

Filing to become an independent organization – Before moving forward with exploring the possibility of becoming an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Becky will visit with SELS staff in regard to continuing the Friends' current status as a subsidiary of the Southeast Library System.

Scholarships – The Board discussed the importance of getting this project started. The award criteria created in April was discussed. Scholarships may be provided for spring training opportunities or for those in the fall. As outlined in the scholarship criteria, "No more than 5% of the bank balance as of July 1 of the budget year may be expending during each 6 month time period." A scholarship application form must be created and shared with the SELS Board prior to publicizing in January 2010. The Board agreed to work on the form development via e-mail in order to have a form for the December 11 SELS Board meeting.

The Board discussed developing a mission statement to reflect the role of the SELS Friends in relation to the Southeast Library System. Board members agreed that the obvious goal of the SELS Friends is to support the Southeast Library System. However, there was general agreement that the Friends had not been specific enough in the past regarding exactly what they are able to support and what they are unable to support. A well developed mission statement would provide guidance for both the SELS Friends and the SELS. The Board did not feel that the Friends should supply assistance for basic operating expenses, such as rent or salaries. The Friends hope to supply supplemental funds to assist SELS in achieving its goal of providing quality continuing education opportunities to area library staff. In order to determine what supplemental resources the SELS may need, the development of a wish list procedure was discussed. The Board agreed that this would allow SELS to request specific assistance, and the SELS Friends would then be able to consider those requests in light of current budget status. A formal mission statement, drawn from this discussion, will follow at a later date.

#### 4. Upcoming Events:

**Iron Librarian Day** – postponed until next summer

##### **NLA/NEMA Conference**

- Board member availability to staff the booth was discussed. Becky will compile a schedule for all day Thursday and Friday morning. Thanks to a donation from Rebecca Bernthal, there will be an iPod raffle (\$1.00 per ticket; \$5.00 for 6 tickets). Cookbook information for online recipe submission will be provided. A silent auction will be held for Wanda Marget's crocheted sign. Megan Boggs has matted and framed it. We will be selling milk chocolate and dark chocolate again this year. No word yet on when the candy will be available for us to bag.
- Hardcover and paperback copies of Gary Moore's Playing with the Enemy will be available for sale at the booth. Karen will take books to the One Book Many Librarians session to sell. Gary Moore will be at the booth to sign copies of his book during Friday's exhibit break. Becky stated that there have been nine online reservations for Moore's book.
- The Speed Reviews session will be Friday, October 30 at 8:00 a.m. Becky will bring book sheets and a timer. The reviewers will be Becky Baker, Jenni Puchalla, Pam Walz, Megan Boggs, Kent Munster, Vicki Wood, Lisa Olivigni, and Julie Beno.

##### **Book Fair at South Pointe Barnes & Noble**

This will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Friday, November 27. The Friends will be providing free gift wrapping from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. From noon to 2:00 p.m., various authors will be on hand to autograph their books. We can make purchase coupons available to patrons prior to that day so any purchases they make during the book fair will have a percentage designated for the Friends. We are not able to promote SELS Friends at the store. We will have access to promotional materials from Barnes & Noble online.

#### 5. By-laws – possible changes

Electronic elections clarification - To allow for voting method options, the following sentence will be inserted in Article V., Section 2: Board members shall determine the voting process (mail, electronic, etc.)

Treasurer duties clarification - To relieve SELS staff from financial responsibilities for Friends funds, the following sentence will be inserted in ARTICLE VI. Section 3: This officer oversees all financial transactions. Karen moved that the changes to the by-laws be approved. Tom seconded it. Motion carried.

6. The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.