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SAPL Board Meeting : 2008 : 01 : 17

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Present:  David Hubbell, Marion Ballard, Ann Sackett, Sue Fraser, Louise Weaver, Betty Jean Miller.  Ex-officio:  Kathy Arsenault, Jean Ferguson.

President’s Report:  David Hubbell
Dr. Hubbell called the meeting to order at 4:15 with the topic of further ways to promote SAPL.  He had discussed it with friends, several of whom said they might join sometime.  He hadn’t had any luck contacting local newspapers about writing articles on SAPL.  Kathy mentioned the previous state-mandated cutbacks of 4% and the possibility of another 8 to 10%, depending on the state legislature.  Dr. Hubbell then asked Betty Jean about promoting SAPL through Town and Gown, and Marion explained that its members’ $100 dues were the only source of income.  Dr. Hubbell suggested setting a dollar goal for a particular project, and Betty Jean proposed book plates.  Louise asked about the Writers’ Conference but was informed that Eckerd College had taken it over due to USF parking problems and classroom space issues.

Treasurer’s Report:  Marion Ballard
Marion reviewed the SAPL Financial Statement, with a beginning balance of $9,868.01 and an ending balance of $12,372.46, which, after expenses, would still leave about $9,000.  The members expressed shock at the low amount of money from internet book sales.  Kathy reminded them that one other expense, $1,000 for expanding the library’s literature program as approved by the SAPL board at its last meeting, had been omitted from the statement.  She then suggested that they hold off further spending until the start of the next fiscal year in July, since there will be deeper budget cuts to come.  Marion moved to accept Kathy’s recommendation to retain the excess monies until the next fiscal year, Louise seconded the motion, and all approved.

Library Dean’s Report:  Kathy Arsenault
Kathy noted that two library conferences would be coming up in Pinellas County, one state and one regional.  She announced that a new librarian would be starting at the beginning of February, an extremely nice Russian national coming from Michigan, hired because of the St. Pete library’s taking over of book ordering from Tampa.  She said that Peter Betzer had agreed to be the SAPL speaker on Friday, April 25, on the Terrace, and that we would send out save-the-date cards and perhaps contact Mary Jane Park.  Peter’s topic will be looking back at his Bayboro career.

Fiction Contest
Kathy indicated that the fiction contest would be publicized soon, with the stories due after spring break.  She asked if anyone had suggestions for a story reader/judge, and Ann said she would ask her neighbor, Peter Meinke, an author and founding member of Eckerd College.  When asked about a payment to a judge, Kathy replied that a token fee
of $300 had once been paid. The judging would take place between March 17 (the Monday after spring break) and April 14 (Honors Week).

In further discussion, Kathy said that when Patricia (Technical Services Librarian) had worked at Rollins, there were endowments to purchase books for the library, and she wondered if SAPL would support something like that. Marion offered to take book plate pamphlets to the next Town and Gown meeting, and it was also suggested that they be given out at the SAPL annual meeting. The board meeting was then adjourned at 5:00.