FOSL Board Meeting
Monday, July 11, 2016
6:30 p.m.
Roebling Point Coffee & Book Store
306 Greenup St Covington, KY 41011

Present: Meredith Singleton, Tira Rogers, Bonnie Meyer, Ken Gunkel, John Campbell, Pat Brennan, Cyd Alper-Sedgwick, Mary Ran, Vicky Schooler, Erik Pederson, Michael Berry, Michael Monks, Steve McMillen, and Sherry Cucchiara (recording secretary)

Not Present: Aaron Sharpe, Arne Almquist, Jennifer Mearns, Kelly Moffett, Rock Neelly, Steve Hoffman, and Tom Kruer

Special Guest: None

Three proxies were assigned as follows:
1. Tira Rogers for Aaron Sharpe
2. Pat Brennan for Jennifer Mears
3. Michael Monks for Rock Neelly

Ken officially opened the meeting at 6:45 p.m. and introduced Sherry Cucchiara, recording secretary, Michael Berry and John Campbell, new board members.

Approval of Minutes from the May 9, 2016 Meeting – Ken Gunkel for Rock Neelly
- Review of minutes with no changes.
- Mary motioned to approve the minutes from the May 9, 2016 meeting as submitted – motion seconded by Tira – all approved.

Approval of Treasurer’s Reports – Ken Gunkel for Rock Neelly
- Ken review May, 2016 report stating the beginning ($13,194.64) and ending ($12,851.95) balances and June, 2016 report stating the beginning ($12,851.95) and ending ($16,442.82) balances.
- Ken advised of 1 outstanding expense which will be recorded in late August, 2016 for $300 for the purchase of a Robert Del Tredici print to be housed in SL Archives. The print was one of a series of twenty, of which the other nineteen were donated by the artist.
- Ken also reported that $2,000 was awarded to two recipients ($1,000 each) for the first annual FoSL Scholarship and $2,000 was transferred to NKU SL.
  - Discussion: Steve M questioned the state of the budget historically. Ken responded the final budget for FoSL is very good as compared to previous years but will provide additional details later in the meeting when reviewing the proposed v. actual budget, which originally projected surplus of $10,000. Vicky commented that a projected surplus is extraordinary because previous years’ money was spent with no money to replenish the expenditures.
- Ken asked for approval of the Treasurer’s Reports for May and June as submitted.
- Pat motioned to approve report and motion seconded by Steve – all approved.
COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominating – Vicky Schooler

- Vicky reported the new board member orientation on June 13, 2016 at 4:30 pm in SL was successful.
- Vicky reported additional board member nominees are needed.
  - **Discussion:** Ken shared 2 possible nominees: Greg Edwards and Brennan Scanlon. He will contact both men and report back to the board on their interest to serve as a board member. The board currently has 19 members, meeting the required 18 minimum but falling short of the 25 maximum members. He shared that Meredith and John are scheduled to complete their terms in June, 2017 unless they assume an officer role. In addition, Vicky’s term will also be complete in June; however, she is serving as an officer for the board. Vicky encouraged all present board members to solicit nominees and doing so early in the fiscal year is helpful. Michael suggested inviting potential nominees to events and meetings, such as Christmas party. Steve M asked for clarification on nominee criteria, of which a lively discussion ensued. Ken shared that in the past, most board members were employed at NKU; however, this has changed to include others in the community. For example, we now have members from P&G and a local Art Gallery. Vicky reminded the group that one retired member was in publishing and another was an author, so it would be helpful to find others in those fields. Ken reminded that board members should be willing to provide time, talent, and treasure. Michael B. suggested the board become more diversified. Vicky added that FoSL should not focus just on literary interest.
- Ken shared a FoSL Board Member contact list with everyone. He asked for personal information to be verified and cautioned the information is confidential and should not be shared with others.
- Ken began the nomination of new officers election and proposed the following:
  - Past President – Pat Brennan
  - President – Ken Gunkel
  - Vice President – Vicky Schooler
  - Secretary – Rock Neelly
  - Treasurer – Tira Rogers

Ken reported the secretary/treasurer position has been separated to allow more board members the opportunity to serve as an officer. With no other nominees, motion to elect board members as proposed by Cyd and motion seconded by John – all approved.

Literary Committee – Vicky Schooler

- No report.
- Steve M and Michael B agreed to serve on this committee.
- Vicky reported there will be no meeting until late August or early September.

Ad Hoc: FoSL Scholarship – Ken Gunkel

- Ken reported Mary Chesnut served as chair with Jennifer Mearns, Meredith Singleton, and Erik Pederson to award two $1,000 scholarships. The recipients are Leigh Ann Voigt of Bardstown and Elizabeth Gauck of Independence. Both recipients have been notified and have accepted the awards.
Ken reminded the board that FoSL scholarships are awarded to online and on campus students and promote a library degree.

- **Discussion:** A lively discussion ensued to discuss the scholarship and process of awarding them. Michael B asked if the recipients are invited to convocation and Ken replied they are invited. In addition, they will be invited to the Christmas party in efforts to cultivate them as new supporters of FoSL and potential future board members. John asked if awards for AY 2016-17 through NKU and Ken replied they are for current academic year beginning in August. Michael B suggested efforts be made to maintain a relationship with recipients to cultivate alumni scholarship support. Ken shared that Arne and President Mearns promoted NKU through the “Road to NKU” road trip campaign where they travel across Kentucky to promote higher education at NKU and invited others to speak at the events. John asked what percent of the scholarship would cover tuition. Meredith responded that the scholarships are available for part and full-time students and all scholarships are applied to a student’s tuition first, and then remaining funds could be used for other expenses by the student. Ken added that the scholarship committee considered dividing the award amounts into smaller scholarships, such as a book allowance. Meredith shared that only two applicants applied for the scholarships and asked the board to consider if scholarships will be renewable. Ken suggested this topic be addressed at a future scholarship committee meeting to make a recommendation to the board. Ken shared that he and the committee learned a lot through this process and knowledge of NKU criteria will be helpful moving forward. He encouraged everyone to work to improve this work. John suggested creating a matching fund donation drive to use exclusively for scholarships.

**Ad Hoc: Good Food, Good Drinks, Good Books – Tira Rogers & Cyd Alper-Sedgwick**

- Tira and Cyd presented details of a proposed fundraiser that could perhaps become an annual event, which will include food, beverages, and authors. The potential profit range is $500 to more than $20,000, which includes several options for fundraising.

- Tira and Cyd reported the extreme end of the fundraiser would include celebrity chef and restaurateur Jean-Robert de Cavel, New Riff Distillery, and famed Louisville, Kentucky author, Carla Carlton, the “Bourbon Babe.” Possible event dates are March 22nd, 29th or April 5th.

  - **Discussion:** A lively discussion ensued. Steve M suggested including local authors in addition to Carlton. Pat suggested using outdoor heaters at the venue if the temperatures were too cool. She suggested working with NKU Alumni programs to borrow their outdoor propane heaters. Bonnie shared her experience with New Riff is excellent and they are very accommodating. Ken suggested the board work with NKU Advancement Services to develop appropriate sponsorship amounts and potential donors/supporters. Pat questioned the cost vs. profits of the fundraiser and the minimum number of participants required. In addition, Pat was concerned the cost of attendance was such that it may have a negative effect on future giving. Erik suggested using NKU to market the event to help control costs. Tira provided handouts depicting profits levels at 50 (break even), 150, and 200 people at $100 per ticket. In addition, a silent auction, raffle, and 3 levels of sponsorship were discussed to raise funds at the event. Ken reported that the Christmas party silent auction generated over $600 profit. Pat stated that she is concerned about how much we ask board members to support FoSL – stating annual donation, silent auction items, and now ticket cost for this event. Vicky stated this is not
a required event for board members; however, it would be nice if they attend. John is confident 200 people would attend; however, Bonnie was more conservative stating she believed 50 people. Bonnie suggested we “start small and grow.” Ken reported that Arne is aware of some aspects of this fundraiser and he would enlighten him in August when they meet.

- Ken proposed a vote of confidence to proceed with planning/discovery stage of this fundraiser with an actual vote in September to fully commit. Vicky motioned to proceed with planning/discovery stage and through his proxy, motion seconded by Rock – all approved.

**President’s Report – Ken Gunkel**

- Ken reported the “Farris Matching Fund” fundraising campaign was a success. 100% of the board participated and a check in the amount of $4,200 from Eva & Oakley Farris has been received. Thank you to everyone.
- Budget vs. Actual – great news! New fiscal year begins with a budget balance of $16,442.
- Ken proposed a $1,500 sponsorship for the BBTB event later this fall. Ken explained that BBTB is a major library event in Cincinnati which attracts over 4,000 people including 140-150 authors. Tira shared she has participated in previous events and attest it generates a lot of interest in FoSL and NKU. Vicky motioned to give $1,500 to BBTB, motion seconded by Meredith – all approved.
- Ken requested Sherry to work with NKU foodservice provider to obtain in-kind donations for future board meetings held on the NKU campus.
- Ken reported that Eva & Oakley Farris have advised they will not renew their support in 2016-17 for the “Farris Matching Fund” drive. Ken will work to find a new benefactor.
- Ken reported the present budget provides support for an art exhibit that Mary had requested.
- Bonnie shared a potential request to support a trip for students to Amsterdam in 2018.
- Birthdays – Erik, John, and Michael.

**Old Business**

- Mary reported that help is still needed for the Thomas Noble event that will be held in September or October, 2016 at SL. Tira offered to assist with marketing and John asked if the paintings would be exhibited at SL. Mary confirmed they will. Steve M offered to contact Kroger Diversity Board to provide support. Bonnie shared a host of “conversations on adversity” are planned for this fall as well. Ken suggested we work with the Freedom Center to possibly partner on this event because of their current work regarding the Parker House in New Richmond, Ohio.

**New Business**

None

Next meeting will be held on Monday, September 12, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at NKU SL room 102. Through proxy, Rock Neelly made a motion to adjourn, motion seconded by the proxy for Aaron Sharpe - all approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.