

Westover Hills Library Advisory Group  
WHLAG

**MINUTES, March 6, 2010 meeting**

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Meeting: Scott Flaherty convened the March WHLAG meeting at the Library at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Scott Flaherty, Jerry Hand, Bill Korzun, Peg Mallon, Carol Parke, Clara Parham, Douglas D'Urso, Susan Gray Page, Debbie Thompson & Branch Manager Clay Dishon

Note: The February 6<sup>th</sup> WHLAG meeting was canceled because of snow.

Author's night update. About 15 people attended the talk by Michael Paul Williams; the event went well.

Treasurer's report. Bill Korzun distributed the January – March 2010 statement, and briefly described the two months' activity represented.

Upcoming Library closure. Clay Dishon announced that the probable closing date for renovations to the Library is April 12<sup>th</sup> – although it is possible for that date to shift. He described ways in which the library will communicate the closing to patrons as well as some patrons' reactions, and outlined such issues in-process as the book drop, the placement of members of the staff during renovations, and procedures related to outdated furniture that will not be re-used. Clay will be stationed at the Main Library. The next meeting of WHLAG, scheduled for April 3, can be held at the Library, as usual.

The closing generated considerable discussion, after which the Advisory Group decided:

- To schedule Yuri's Night on Friday, April 10 at 7:00 p.m., with the usual activities
- To include, on that same night, a special "Going Away Party" for patrons to celebrate the renovations
- Summer Reading Event will be cancelled for 2010

Debbie Thompson agreed to head up Yuri's Night and will call Steve Smith and Laura Dysart about details. WHLAG will finalize preparations at the April 3 meeting. The Group discussed the need for ongoing publicity. March 15 is the deadline for the next issue of the Westover Hills RAG, and Scott will write an article. It was agreed that there should be continuing articles/online information while library renovations are underway, to alleviate some prevalent fears of the branch closing. Emphasis, in publicity, should be on such possible words as, "renovation kickoff," avoiding the word "closing" altogether. Douglas will contact the Richmond Astronomical Society.

The group suggested a historical display in the children's area similar to what was done at the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and encouraging photos of the "old," to compare against the "new." Development of a "time capsule" was also discussed, as was the use of the existing, blue Westover Hills Library banner.

Clay briefly outlined results of the recent patron survey, which included questions about which alternate branch libraries patrons expected to attend, and staff satisfaction questions. Answers included, in the first case, Belmont and Main Library (among others.). Satisfaction with staff was high (85.4% = excellent). Clay also outlined overall Richmond Public Library budget issues, which remain serious. He requested from WHLAG a specific Panasonic model of a new digital camera, in order to keep a good record of the renovations and for other purposes, the estimated cost under \$200.00. WHLAG approved his request.

The meeting closed at 10:10 a.m.

**Next meeting date: 9:00 a.m. April 3, at the Library**