Minutes of the Board of Directors of the
Friends of the Van Pelt Library
June 6, 1996

Present: Fisher, Hawthorne, Love, Praeger, Morrison, Hoagland, Reynolds
Absent: R. Yarbrough, E. Yarbrough, Van Pelt, Dobney, Johnson
Visitors: Sally Brozzo

A quorum of board members was present. Faith Morrison called the meeting to order at 4:10pm; action items are in bold.

The minutes of the May meeting were reviewed. June Hawthorne moved, and Nancy Fisher seconded, that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.

Morrison reported that she had solicited help from some graduate students in the departments of chemical engineering and chemistry, and as a result two students had worked during the graduation blanket sale. Morrison recommended granting these two individuals membership in the Friends in consideration of their volunteering 4 hours for the group. Morrison pointed out that for the usual membership donation of $10 for students and $15 for others, 4 hours was quite a modest wage. The board approved this as a policy, i.e. 4 hours of volunteer work qualifies an individual for membership in the Friends.

Nancy Fisher reported that during the graduation blanket sale 29 blankets were sold on Friday and 4 on Saturday. There were very few people in the MUB on Saturday due to the fact that graduates did not need to go to the MUB to return gowns and also due to the fact that the University Store was closed. It was suggested that if we are selling something next year, we should request to be able to sell near the Pro Shop at the SDC on graduation day.

Fisher reported two memberships to the Friends had come in due to blanket sales. The historical summary of the buildings which is included in the blanket packages includes an invitation to join the Friends. Two individuals have sent this in, one with a $50 donation, and one with a $500 donation.

The status of membership was discussed. It was agreed that the list of all members of the Friends by membership category will be published in the next newsletter (Friends, Book Sponsors, etc.). Morrison was directed by the board to review the titles of the membership categories and revise as she deems necessary. Two possible new names of member categories are book lover and best friends. Morrison passed around a membership list from the U. of Michigan Friends of the Library which included the category of best friends for donations of $5,000 and above.

Morrison presented the board with a draft of the next newsletter. The Call to Arms is still not completed, but Morrison will work on it with Fisher and Phyllis Johnson. An item listing all the proposed projects for the Friends was reviewed in detail and modified. Terry Reynolds moved and Love seconded that the Friends consider the renovation of five study carrels into small-group study space for $5,000 as our first project. There was a great deal of discussion; many board members felt that we should wait until the bid is received and we have $5,000 in the bank before deciding on the project. The motion failed by a vote of 1-5. The board charged Morrison with getting out the newsletter before the July meeting.
Morrison reported that she had not pursued the idea raised at the last board meeting regarding getting publicity for the positive impact of the book sale. She will do so before the July meeting. The idea is to get items into the Gazette, alumnus, Lode; the press release should include our wish list.

Betzi Praeger reported that she had compiled a list of how the book sale was conducted this year. This is composed of an initial summary by Bob Marr and an addendum written by Praeger. Copies were distributed to board members who are asked to review it. Whether or not to ask for a prose summary of the booksale from the booksale committee will be discussed at the next meeting.

Fisher gave the treasurer's report. In all of our accounts our assets are $8616; our liabilities are $5,000; our net worth is $3616. In addition, we have 137 blankets which if sold for $65 each will generate $8685. Fisher indicated that we may need to place another advertisement to sell the remaining blankets. She also volunteered to see if a mention of our blanket sale could be made in the Gazette as a part of community service. Morrison suggested that we put posters up in the MUB so that the summer program people could see the blanket. Morrison will work with Fisher on this.

Alumni weekend is August 1-4, 1996; Morrison will be out of town. This is an important time to sell blankets. The board will discuss this at length at the next meeting.

The first Thursday in July is the 4th, so the next meeting was moved until July 11. Morrison will be travelling the first week in August; the board decided that the August meeting could be cancelled. Morrison pointed out that the by-laws call for a membership meeting to be held within 90 days of July 1. The board needs to produce a slate of candidates for board seats at that time; the terms of Morrison, Praeger, and Ed Yarbrough are up as of that meeting. In addition, there is room to add additional board members if that is the board's wishes. Fisher indicated that President Tompkins had offered his home again this year for our meeting. It was decided to hold the annual member meeting the 3rd or 4th week of September from 5-7pm, on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday night, depending on the availability of President and Mrs. Tompkins' home. Fisher will check with the Tompkins. All board members are asked to try to think of a suitable event to stage at the meeting.

Love moved and Fisher seconded that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm. The next meeting will be Thursday, July 11, 1996 at 4pm in room 301 of the Van Pelt Library. NOTE: this is not the first Thursday.

Submitted by Faith Morrison, June 11, 1996.