FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP APPROVE FRIENDS FOUNDATION MERGER

Over one-third of the 915 members of the FRIENDS participated in the vote on the plan to merge the library's two support groups, the FRIENDS and the Foundation. At a special meeting held November 2nd, 298 FRIENDS (including 287 proxy voters) unanimously approved the resolution for the merger.

Louane Newsome, who played an instrumental role in forming the FRIENDS group, wrote...."I recall the days when the FRIENDS organization was started..." "...we selected Ann Bagford to be our first president." "...Ann worked hard and today when I see and read all that the FRIENDS accomplish each year, I am thrilled and proud and happy and amazed! Now, the FRIENDS will be stronger than ever and it is so wise to merge with the Foundation into one strong, encompassing support group. Congratulations and the best of good wishes for growth and success."

Ann Bagford feels the merger is a natural process that takes place in the

growth of an organization and is delighted to be a part of such a successful group. She is confident that the Friends Foundation will operate more efficiently and effectively.

Mary Lea Kruse thanked Tom Gelman, a former FRIENDS president, Foundation board member and Library trustee, and a local attorney who volunteered many hours to assist both organizations with the merger. Other comments received included "It's about time we had just one inclusive support group!" and "So pleased this is finally happening!"

Lolly Eggers, director of the library, said she was pleased the merger went smoothly and is looking forward to working with the board members of the ICPL Friends Foundation.

LIBRARY HOLIDAY HOURS LISTED

Dec. 24-25 — Closed all day

Dec. 31 — 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Jan. 1 — Closed all day

Jan. 18 — Open regular hours