

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEETING MINUTES

April 19, 2016

Attendees: Stephanie Tannariello , Cheryl Forster , Shelley Quinn, Pam Macdonald, Jane Cosmo, Charlene Carper, Christine Farris , Amy Lapointe , Gwen Sliger, Nancy Spears, Michele Burke, Liz Larson, Nancy Head, Sally Harrington, Joell Mancini, Gretchen Pyles

Chair's Report: (Cheryl Forster) Chair called meeting to order at 1:02 pm and thanked everyone for their attendance. Chair reported how pleased she was that the Friends again received more positive exposure during the final Concert at 4 library event sponsored by the Friends. The Library and Friends will reconnect and consider if a similar or different program event would be nice to plan for next year. The Friends encourage a similar series next year as the program was a nice event for senior citizens, during day light and drew a large crowd of all ages at every concert. The Friend's sponsored docent tour of the Shakespeare Folio event at the Currier was also considered a success. Twenty-four individuals were lead around by Currier docents (and Friends members) Nancy Baker and Paula Schmida. Nancy was also able to negotiate a fabulous discounted rate of \$100 for the entire tour. A sign-up sheet to be part of the Budgetary and BOD Nomination committee was sent around for volunteers.

Secretary Report: (Shelley Quinn) March 2016 minutes approved.

Treasurer Report: (Michele Burke) Opening balance: \$27,210.82 income \$5,737.33 (\$3,030.00 Trivia Night, \$1,050 Kathryn Greaney at Boeing donation, \$800 Student Art Show, and \$700 membership-including a lifetime membership), expenses \$923.90 (Museum Passes \$475, Concerts at 4 \$250, Currier Tour \$100) for an ending balance of \$32,024.25. Treasurer prepared a cash projection of Friend's estimated cash ending balance at August 31,2016 based upon annual budgetary commitments in order to determine available cash to support additional Library projects, in particular the \$15.5K to enhance/reorganize the Adult reading section (add seating, reconfigure nonfiction stacks, add display cabinet) discussed in detail at previous meetings. Including the \$5.5K donation to support the new Café section of the library it was estimated that the Friends would have an ending cash balance of \$22.6K. Open discussion regarding the use of the funds came up with the following points 1) Friends raise money to support the Library and not sit in a bank account 2) Considering historical needs and projected ending cash balance it was determine the Friends could afford to support the \$15.5 Library Adult reading section project 3) Many Friends had expressed a desire to support one substantial capital project rather than numerous smaller gifts 4) The Friends would like some sort of publicly displayed recognition for substantial capital projects supported. After a discussion, Charlene Carper nominated a move to expend \$15.5K to fund the enhancement towards the Adult Reading Enhancement Project as proposed in detail by the Library Representative in previous meetings. Jane Cosmo seconded the motion, thus the \$15.5K was approved to expend and fund the Adult Reading Enhancement Project.

Correspondence: (Jean Treadwell) It was agreed that a thank you should be sent to Nancy Baker and Paula Schmida for their fabulous (and discounted rate) docent tour of the Currier, for the lifetime Friends membership and the generous Kathryn Greaney/ Boeing donation.

Trustee/ Library Director Report: (Amy Lapointe) Library Director reported that as spring and summer approach the Library prepares for the increase in children programs as the many Adult programs executed during the winter/ early spring come to a close in March. The Library is expecting a new roof and back fence over the coming months. Planning for the next Boardman Concert has started and all Friends are welcome to attend the NH Library Association Conference in May along with the Library staff and Trustees.

Committee Reports:

Membership: (Pam Macdonald) Increased to 132 members (15 more), mostly due to exposure during Trivia Night where Friends membership cards were distributed. It was suggested that Membership start the work to prepared the annual Friends membership renewal packages over the summer and ideally send in August so as not to compete with the heavy activity associated with the beginning of the school year. Membership had an idea to give the new (and first) lifetime membership one of the three remaining Friends of the Library tote bag. There are considerations of whether to order more.

Professional Art Display: (Sharon April) No update

Display Case: (Zola Brown) April has Marti Warren's bird collection. June is still open, but ideas generated included nature trails, parks or children's summer program. July will be the Historical Society and now the Girls Scouts are planned for August.

Publicity: (Andrea Maier) Publicity working with Jane to promote the upcoming trip to Rough Point.

Newsletter: (Joelle Mancini) After a discussion on dates, it was agreed that with the timing of the trip to Rough Point and the Student Art show the best time for the next issue would be last half of May. Items suggested to include in the newsletter were: success of Trivia Night, Friend's donation of \$15.5K for enhancement of the Adult reading section, Rough Point trip, Summer Reading Program, Professional Artist, Student Art show information, publish BOD Friends of the Library open positions and maybe add a few teaser trivia questions to each issue on a regular basis.

On-Line Book Selling: (Cheryl Forster) Money generated from on-line book sales averages \$300-\$350 every two months.

Hospitality: (Paula Schmida) No update.

Trips: (Jane Cosmo/ Jan Madigan) Since the plans for the Rough Point trip are just about finalized, the advertising for it will start shortly. Jane will collect money since the Library cannot be involved in collecting it. Jane shared the flyers that will be posted at the Library that discusses the trip in detail (date/ time/ cost/ recommendations/ misc).

July 4th: (Stephanie Tannariello) Deadline to submit application to the town for a booth is in June. Currently looking for volunteers to organize and be present for the book sale. Stephanie is still available to help prepare the books for the event.

September Book Sale: (Gretchen Pyles) The idea to try and organize the event so the sale could last for 2 days was again brainstormed and discussed. Unfortunately with the additional cost of other locations, cost to rent tables, availability of student volunteers and the uncertainty of how much money a second day would actually generate it was agreed that the one day sale at the Congregational church was still the best option for now. September 17, 2016 has been reserved at the Church for the sale date. Ideas to sell baked goods (as was originally done at the original book sale in the 90's) and reconnect with not-for-profits (to pick up unsold books) was discussed to try and address issues of declining revenue and book waste.

Trivia Night: (Stephanie Tannariello/ Liz Larson) The event was declared a huge financially and socially successful event with over \$4.2K (net) generated. Hampshire Hills had improved service and food quality over last year but is already planning ways to improve next year as well. It was suggested to revisit the auction strategy next year (both donated items and process). The \$100 Moulton's gift card donated by Quinn Brothers brought in the most revenue from the auction, and The Mile Away was second.

Student Art Show: (Christine Farris). All aspects are coming together. Some discussion around quantity of artwork (number per child and per school) was discussed in detail. Historically the acceptance of 500 pieces of artwork (100 Souhegan High School, 150 Amherst Middle School, 150 Wilkins/Clark and 100 Mount Vernon) is still considered the maximum number of pieces that should be displayed due to space constraints. It was also noted that next year it will be emphasized/ enforced that only 1 art piece per child will be accepted for the Student Art show. Unfortunately the Citizen did not publish the article submitted about the show in the last issue and it is hoped it will be included in the next issue. It was suggested to ask the Citizen to add a tab for the Friends of the Library to the electronic format on the web. Also plan to ask Gerry St. Amand to include details of the show in his weekly news letter, include details on Amherst Facebook page and at the Library. It is important to get the word out that the dates are different this year and are planned around Mother's Day this year and not on Mother's Day. Gift cards and food donations are coming in but still have some open ends that need to be closed

Meeting closed at 2:13

Last two meetings of the year scheduled:

Tuesday May 17^h at (changed to 1 PM on 5/12/2016) and Tuesday June 21^h at 1PM (Election of new Board)

Recording Secretary

Shelley Quinn