

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEETING MINUTES

January 9, 2018

In Attendance:

Steph Tannariello, Diane Bonenfant, Jane Pollio, Michele Burke, Amy Lapointe, Liz Larson, Nancy Spears, Andrea Maier, Shelley Quinn

Call to order: 1:05 pm

Chair's Report: Stephanie Tannariello

- Happy New Year! Book sale was pretty good. Both the cart and the table brought in a good amount.
- Amber did a great job with the holiday décor, it was beautiful, and she only spent \$75. The display case was beautiful and made an impact.
- We need a new Christmas tree for the library. Michaels is having a good sale right now.
- Discussion also about new light up candles. We have to look into the options because the LED lights are very expensive. Any new lights would need to be on a timer. The current lights are very tedious to set up due to the lack of plugs and having to maneuver where to put all the extension cords.
- Membership is down from last year. Our current number is 113. The high was closer to 200 last year. Lisa will send out a renewal reminder for members. Perhaps publicity can post information about joining the Friends. Perhaps some posts on Facebook? Liz mentioned that the most effective way to get people to join, in her experience, is to talk to them face to face and ask them to join.
- The concert series starts this weekend. It would be good for Ruslyn to also mention joining the Friends before introducing the musicians.
- Regarding dropping off items for the concerts, if you are dropping things off to the library kitchen prior to Sunday, please make sure it is labeled.
- Nancy mentioned that Market Basket sells delicious cookies that they package in a clear bag that is tied with a ribbon. These are large and crispy cookies that got eaten quickly at the last event. The cookies are in the bakery area and they sell several different kinds.
- Professional Art Display: Christine has a full-time job now so there needs to be a side-kick or a person to completely take over. Do you know anyone who has a passion for art and volunteering?
- Student Art Show: Jennifer Gilkie is stepping down due to work obligations. It is a lot of work. This event doesn't raise any funds but it is an excellent community service/outreach project.
- Amy suggested creating committees for the Student Art Show with a few chairs to head up different parts so that it gets broken down. It's too large for one person and the duties need to be separated out. We need to find out from Christine and Jennifer if there is a "to-do" list, or a binder/info packet of operations for the student art show. It would help before recruiting someone, to know exactly what needs to be done.
- Discussion as to whether the judging piece of the art show can be taken out. The judging is a recent addition and the art show has been done for many years in the past without judging. This would also make the process much easier.

Funded Programs by the Friends at the library: (notes from Ruslyn)

- Sundays at 4 (1.14, 2.25, 3.4, 4.22 from 4pm to 5pm) Two Shakespeare specials on 3.15 and 3.18
- Other opportunity for Friends to provide refreshments for are March 13 (Codebreaking and Information Theory 7-8:30pm for Pi Day). It would be fun to supply “pie” as the Friends have done the past 2 years. (Stephanie stated that the pies would be expensed)
- For programs presented by the Friends, set up for tablecloths and putting food out is usually about 30 minutes prior to the presentation.
- Ruslyn says “much gratitude to all of you for your hard work and support of the library!”

Trustee/Library Director: Amy Lapointe

- Lots of great adult programming happening.
- The next Tech Tuesday is Device Advice. Turnout has been pretty good. Not huge numbers. The presenter does a really good job with people at the low tech level.
- Winter/North theme
- After hours tween/teen Harry Potter trivia on 1/19
- Rec Dept collaboration with skate and story time if the weather cooperates
- Kids winter knitting class for grades 1-4
- Deliberative Session is at SHS on 2/7 at 7pm
- Library is closed for MLK on 2/15

Publicity/Newsletter: Andrea Maier

- Content is required by 1/30/18 for February newsletter.
- Target for February newsletter is the 2nd week
- Discussion as to whether to spotlight bios of Board Members to make the newsletter more personal

Treasurer: Michele Burke

- Opening Balance \$21,624.25
- Income from membership, tote bags, online book sales (Sept/Oct), book cart, holiday book sales, donations, Amazon smile and interest (Nov/Dec): \$1,504.21
- Expenses from newsletters, hospitality, concerts at 4, museum passes (new pass for Strawberry Banke) and fees: \$1,221.95
- Ending balance: \$21,906.51
- Additional items to be paid before 6/30 itemized list provided by Michele: \$16,561

Display case:

All set

Trivia Night: Liz Larson

- Liz needs help
- Raffle needs to be revamped. It needs to be either overhauled or nixed
- Discussion about adding more art into the raffle
- Moultons is by far the most popular raffle prize
- The trivia night draws a diverse audience. People are either there to play trivia and nothing else; some just are there to eat, drink and socialize; some are there to support the library
- Brainstorming is needed. Do some Pinterest searching for “fun raffle” and “fundraising” ideas
- Sign-ups are coming soon

Minutes: Accepted

Meeting adjourned: 1:45pm