

FRIENDS OF THE BEEKMAN LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD MONDAY, NOV.4, 2019

OFFICERS , DIRECTORS, & MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joann Ambrosini, Tony Capalbo, Denise Dini, Irene Drugan, Rebecca Florance, Mickey Fraher, Linda Jacobs, Kris Macdonald, Caryn Presti, Barbara Rendich, Lynn Adams, Xenia Ebel, Arlene Vaquer, Jerry Balcom, Doris Weiss, Eileen Hershinson, and Linda Jacobs.

STAFF PRESENT: None

CALL TO ORDER: Arlene called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm. Irene moved to accept the minutes from the October meeting. Kris seconded the motion which passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Rebecca reported that the book sale in October netted \$1075.58. Year to Date Book Sales have brought in \$11,131.55. We have \$10,879.32 in Checking, \$5.26 in Savings, and \$699.14 Cash on Hand. A deposit was made last week so there's less on hand. Tony moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Joann. Motion passed.

Following the report there was a discussion regarding the monies being turned over to the Library quarterly. Rebecca said she had a discussion with Carol in Sept. We have been waiting for all invoices to come in for us to pay for the 414 signs and post cards and the Annual Appeal printing and mailing. Once all bills are paid Rebecca will give the Library money in December keeping back \$1500 or whatever is needed before our March book sale. We expect expenses for the Winter Social and the Christmas Cookie Sale.

Rebecca spoke to the committee about changing from Square to Paypal for credit card payments. Square's costs are increasing while Paypal is a better plan for us. Also Square is on Rebecca's personal I-phone and Paypal can be done by anyone on an I-Pad. Rebecca will do further research and report back to us in January.

Kris moved to have the Friends open a Paypal account in 2020. Arlene seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: : Carol Fortier submitted her report to be read in her absence.

- **Budget Vote**

Early voting has ended, and tomorrow is Election Day. The Board put up road signs and made phone calls to get out the vote. Thank you to the Friends for the funds to send the vote reminder postcards and to purchase those road signs.

- **Union Vale Funding**

We have yet to get a signed contract from the Union Vale Town Board. Their latest request was to the President's of the Beekman and Millbrook Boards with a contract based on the number of Union Vale cardholders in those libraries. This is not how library service is funded and it is not in keeping with the agreement that has been in place for the past four years based on the number of Union Vale residents. The Boards of libraries have requested that restrictions be put in place on January 1, 2020 in the absence of a signed contract.

- **Community Conversations and Strategic Plan**

I am scheduled to present the findings of the Community Conversations to the Town of Beekman Board on November 20th at 7:00 pm. The Library will continue to

work on the strategic plan and will keep the Friends involved in the proces, so we are all working toward the same goals for the Library.

- **Grants**

Kathy Reilly submitted two grant requests for program funding. One to Arts Mid-Hudson and one to Community Foundation. I will be submitting a grant request to Dutchess County for funding for Y.E.S. our teen volunteer program.

- **Programs and Services**

The Great Give Back was a success. We collected over thirty pajamas and books that were matched and labeled for donation to the Poughkeepsie Children's Home and Dutchess Outreach.

We launched a new service called Universal Class on October 15th. It is accessible from our website. It provides over 500 classes on topics as varied as Drawing 101 to Designing a Web Page. The classes are designed to be completed at your own pace and provide continuing education credit. Please try it out. The staff is happy to give you a tour on a library computer.

We have a new Express Checkout computer at the circulation desk. It allows patrons to check out items using their card and pin. It cannot be used for hold pickups or payments. We are hoping this will make patrons feel more in control of their time during our busier periods.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Book Sale Committee:

Arlene asked for volunteers for the Nov. 16th book sale. We also need people to volunteer to man the \$5 a bag of Christmas books section.

We will have a fill a bag of Christmas books, movies, cd's etc. over to the side behind the bench. Shoppers can fill their bags which will be paid for when they're ready to check out.

Gift quality Christmas books will be featured for December.

We will also be passing around the sign up sheet for bakers for the Christmas Cookie sale and putting little reminders into our shoppers' bags.

Jerry gave a report on our book donations. He said the bulk of the donations go to Good Will, the United Way, the Salvation Army and Green Haven Prison. He's waiting to hear from Bedford Prison and he brings books up to Luthern Care Centers. He says perhaps as much as 1,000 books have been donated thus far this year.

With regard to large print, both he and Barbara found places that would take our excess large print books.

Irene announced that there is room on the "display" book case which now has the Nancy Drew the Manga books. Irene explained that she will not be coming in to sort until January. She has a lot of personal things to take care of over the holidays.

Arlene told her that we would at least come in and make sure that donations are not piling up in a disorderly manner.

Annual Appeal Committee:

Mailing expected to go out by Dec. 3. The printing company does it all. We are mailing out approx. 2,000 appeal requests.

Membership Committee:

Nothing really new to report, we have 89 members. She and Rebecca will have a membership table at the Vendor Fair in the vestibule.

Christmas Cookie Committee:

Joann said there was nothing to report.

Winter Social Committee:

Barbara said all was well. She has a proof of an invitation. She will be meeting with her committee.

Irene moved to approve Barbara to be reimbursed for all expenses involved with the Winter Social, since printing, postage, etc. would be more than the allowable \$50. Arlene seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

Raffle Committee:

The Sept./Oct Football/Tailgate raffle baskets (2) proceeds were approx. \$260.

Giants Raffle Tickets:

The total proceeds from both the Stop & Shop Sunday in October and the Shoprite Sunday in November came to \$370 in ticket sales and \$421 in donations, plus whatever was sold upstairs. The drawing is Nov. 16th at the book sale. Next year other volunteers need to step up to sell at the outdoor locations and we have to hope that the Giants are doing better.

Social Media Committee:

Kris asked that people please put out some flyers for the Vendor Fair and share with friends on their Facebook pages or email with attachments.

By Laws Committee:

Vote on By-Laws was moved down to Old business.

OLD BUSINESS:

Arlene reported on the Amendments to the By-Laws that would be voted on this evening. Since only the Directors and Officers received copies of the amended by-laws, she gave the committee present a brief summary of our By-Laws. (it should be noted that there is a copy of the By-Laws in the back on top of the file cabinets for all to see)

Our By-Laws were first drawn up 9/1/15 when the Friends officially became a non-profit. We noticed periodically that certain things were not covered. We needed amendments. Arlene researched other groups' By-Laws including the Library Board's. All of our Directors and Officers also took a look at the amendments and gave their input. She met with Carol Fortier, which is mandatory, who was extremely helpful with good suggestions and language. Arlene went over the items that needed changes for the committee.

Arlene moved to accept the Amendments to the By-Laws of the Friends of the Beekman Library as set forth therein. Irene seconded this motion and by a vote of a required quorum (9 Directors present) of the Directors and Officers the motion passed unanimously. At this time Arlene asked three of the Officers to officially sign the new By-Laws as amended.

NEW BUSINESS:

Under new business Kris and Rebecca announced that we would like to try to have our January Book Sale planning brunch at the Roosevelt House in Dalton Farm since we have become such a large crowd. Everyone seemed pleased so we will book the get together for January 12th and send out Save the Dates to the committee.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 3, 2020 (Snow Date: Feb. 10th) at 5:15

upstairs. Kris will check to make sure the Community Room is available.

The meeting was adjourned at 6.40 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Kris Macdonald
Secretary