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FRIENDS OF THE BEEKMAN LIBRARY MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD DECEMBER 5, 2023

OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, & MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lynn Adams, Jerry Balcom, Xenia Ebel, Larry Korducki, Anne Marie Larkin, Kris Macdonald, Jennifer Mihocko (Treasurer), Barbara Rendich (VP), Jeanette Simone, Arlene Vaquer (Pres.), Juliana Cody, Irene Drugan, Marvelle Hondorp, Joan Korducki, Linda Sprance, and Mary Jane Zukowski.

STAFF PRESENT: Carol Fortier, Director of the Beekman Library

CALL TO ORDER:

Arlene called the meeting to order at 12:07 pm. Anne Marie moved to accept the November minutes as distributed. The motion was seconded by Jen and passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jen reported that we have \$3,094.75 in our checking account, \$213.00 cash on hand, and \$2,842.46 in savings. Our expenses so far this year are \$3,100.00. Jen thanked people for donations for Re-Org which saved in expenses. Jen projected that we will end the year with a \$6,000 balance.

Irene thanked Jen for the amount of work she puts into her Treasurer's Reports. Barbara moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and Lynn Adams seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Carol reported the following:

Administrative:

*The new program calendar is up and running.

*We received a \$4000 broadband grant from Dutchess County to increase our W-Fi access and cover any dead zones in the building or on the grounds.

*Annual Meeting scheduled for Sunday, March 10 at 2pm.

Expansion Project:

*Work will start on December 18. This does not change the completion date.

*Discussion of changes in your meetings, book sales and special events after the new meeting room is completed.

Under "Expansion Program", Carol will work with Arlene as far as planning for our meetings and book donations.

There was a discussion about how to take book donations with the possibility of using our bins or a Pod.

Friends Support:

*Sue sent out the emails to cookie bakers and has continued to send the email to new signs-ups.

*We have had some ornament donations from patrons to add to the holiday ornament sale.

Funding Vote:

*As you know by now the funding vote passed with a margin of 67% yes to 33% no. Thank you all for all you do to advocate for the library in the community.

Programs & Services:

*The Teen Murder Mystery Night was a huge success with 18 teens attending and a fund filled evening for all.

Carol thanked Anne Marie Larkin for successfully engaging teens.

*Our programming staff have been working hard on our holiday program lineup. We have a Holiday Open House and Cookie Decorating scheduled for adults.

*We have a Christmas Family Story Time, Hanukkah Program and Menorah lighting, Polar Express and our very popular Santa's mailbox. We also have Teen ornament making night.

Following Carol's report, with regard to the Expansion Project, Arlene reported that we have a lot to talk about concerning the "Set Up" We will need a Set Up Committee and Take Down Committee.

LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING REPORT: None

FLS/NYLA REPORTS:

Carol is now NYLA/FLS President. Arlene was elected to the FLS Executive Board as a Member at Large for a year.

Arlene reported on the NYLA Saratoga Conference. Arlene co-sponsored a presentation with Jim Foster, the Assistant Director of Clifton Park Half Moon Library. Jim is also the liaison at the library for the Friends. The presentation was about increasing friends; explaining what a friend is; and the need to reach out to the community.

Arlene spoke about volunteers taking on a larger role. We also need to further partner with youth programs and have membership tables at events.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Book Sale:

The date for the March 2024 book sale has been changed to the 23rd.

The January 21st planning meeting at the Dalton Farm Roosevelt House will be 11:00am to 2:00pm. A Pot Luck brunch is included. Kris will send out notices after holidays.

There will be no donations until further notice. We will start up again in February. Storing the donated books in the "bins" was discussed.

Annual Appeal:

Membership:

Arlene reported that we currently have 159 members. Collected to date: \$2390.00 in donations.

Fundraising:

Raffles:

There are four raffles for the Christmas Cookie Sale. Our big Christmas Wrap basket will be on the circulation desk until the Cookie Sale on Dec. 9th. The other three Christmas raffle baskets will also be raffled that day.

Christmas Cookie Sale:

We have volunteers for the 8th of Dec. to wrap cookies. Sign up please! Cookies will be \$10/lb. We will also be selling Children's Christmas Books, Music CDs and DVDs. We will also be selling gently used ornaments this year.

Social Committee:

The Winter Social this year will be co-chaired by Barbara and Mary Jane. A date is yet to be chosen.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Arlene asked members to let her know what they will be bringing to our January 21st pot luck brunch. Kris was asked to reach out to the members who were not in attendance today.

Also under new business, Arlene said that she, Carol, Barbara and Jen attended an open house at Sparrow's Nest. They met Kristen. Sparrow's Nest is expecting to open in February 2024.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Since the committee will be getting together on Jan. 21st, they were not open to a January 9th meeting. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Macdonald, Secretary

