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FRIENDS OF THE BEEKMAN LIBRARY MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD SEPT. 5, 2023

OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, & MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lynn Adams, Jerry Balcom, Xenia Ebel, Anne Marie Larkin, Kris Macdonald, (Secretary), Irene Drugan, Marvelle Hondorp, Cliff Johnsen, Jennifer Mihocko, (Treasurer), Barbara Rendich (VP), Jeanette Simone, Linda Sprance, Arlene Vaquer (President), Merle VonWettberg, and Mary Jane Zukowski.

STAFF PRESENT: Carol Fortier, Director of the Beekman Library

CALL TO ORDER:

Arlene called the meeting to order at 12:06 pm. Anne Marie L. moved to accept the August 1st minutes as distributed, this motion was seconded by Jenn and passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Jennifer Mihocko reported to the committee that we have \$536.73 in our checking account, \$6,908.28 in savings and \$205 Cash on Hand. Jen said we had 2 great book sales in August and we were up 21% over last year. Jen also reported that Raffles are up 34%; Donations up 20%; Memberships up 50%; and Expenses down 54%. We made \$177 plus on the raffle. We will be giving the library another check in October. Xenia moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, the motion was seconded by Arlene and passed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Administrative

- RBT did the fieldwork for our audit on 8-3-23. The final report will be presented to the board at the September meeting.
- **Expansion Project**
- We will be announcing the opening of the bid process on September 12. Bids are due by October 12 and will be read at noon on that day at an open meeting in the community room. Please let me know if you have a suggestion for a local contractor we should reach out to for a bid.

Funding Vote

- We are starting to provide information on the funding vote. It was in the enews that went out today and will be in the print news in October. There is also information on our website.
- We will be making phone calls again this year so I have a sign-up sheet for those of you who would be willing to make calls to encourage people to get out and vote. A script will be provided.
[Carol mentioned that the early voting will start on Oct. 21st so we need to start calls early.](#)

Grants

- We received word from our State Senator and Assemblyman that we will be receiving \$17,000 more than originally announced for our NY State Construction Grant.
- We were once again awarded a DC Youth Services grant for our Y.E.S. program. We will be receiving \$7000 for 2023/2024 grant period.
- I will be applying for a Dutchess County Agency Partner Infrastructure grant for the elevator. I will be requesting \$250,000. This is a big ask but the Red Hook Library received \$200,000 last year for a new roof for their historic building and Millbrook received \$200,000 for their HVAC system.

Outreach and Marketing

- September is Library card signup month. We are giving away two raffle baskets, one for adults and one for children. Please spread the word as this is a great time to sign up for a library card if you don't have one. Current library cardholders can bring a friend or neighbor in and be entered in the raffle as well.

- We are conducting a Library Services Survey during September and October. It will be publicized on social media, enews, print news and our website. Please complete the survey and encourage friends and neighbors to do the same, especially if they ARE NOT a library user.
- The print newsletter is with the graphic designer and will be in mailboxes October 1-3.

Services

- Passport Services will begin in October.

NYLA Friends of Libraries Section

- *Education opportunity*

FLS Connections – Membership Engagement

Thursday, October 12, at 4 p.m. via Zoom (registration required)

*If you are looking for some tried and true approaches to grow your Friends in a variety of ways, you'll want to attend the next FLS Connections! when we will tackle the topic of membership engagement. Read more and find registration information online at NYLA FLS.

LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING REPORT: None

FLS/NY REPORT:

Arlene spoke about the upcoming NYS NYLA Conference. She will be co-presenting a workshop. She also mentioned that October 15-21st will be Friends of the Library Week and we may want to hold a special membership drive to the Friends.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Book Sale:

Kris reported on behalf of Lynn B., who couldn't be here that she has put together a new "Request" Box which will always be up on the front table instead of the bulletin boards. Patrons will fill out the request cards the same way as always but section owners and volunteers can pull cards out of the box from their section to search for books.

Arlene asked for more volunteers for Sept. 16th book sale. We have moved our November book sale to the 11th due to possible construction downstairs.

Jane and Anne Marie L. will be having the "Big Truck Day" on Sept. 30th and we will open the book store for sales.

Reorganization Committee:

Arlene thanked everyone for working so hard to get so much done since our August sale. We then discussed further moves. We are planning having everything in the back after the October book sale and then doing a run through for the November Sale.

Membership:

Arlene told the committee we have 154 members. To date membership has brought in \$1,170 with \$715 in donations.

Fundraising:

Raffles:

The "Mom's Rescue Back to School" raffle basket made \$177.00

The Sept. Basket is a "Halloween Family" basket the winner will be picked on Sept. 21st.

Christmas Cookie Sale:

The dates this year will be Dec. 6 & 7 drop off cookies day, the 8th will be our wrap day and the sale will be on Saturday, Dec. 9th.

It was decided by the committee that we will raise the price to \$10 a pound.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next meeting will be held on October 3 at noon.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Kris Macdonald, Secretary