

Friends of Onondaga Free Library
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
November 2, 2022

PRESENT:

Directors: Barbara Leigh, Sheila Gaudons, Pamela McLaughlin, Susan Parry, Mary Beth Roach, Laura Sullivan, Mary Taylor and John Thornton Absent: George Bain and Donna Zeolla
Staff: Susan Morgan
Ambassadors: Anne Andrianos (phone) Joanne Basta and Deb Carey

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Barb L. and Mary Beth R. cleaned out the storage area. We have shelves and bins in the room behind the circulation desk. The area under the Friends' Corner has been organized.
- The Halloween give away at OCC at OCC went well. There was lots of positive feedback about the library. Possibly because of the beautiful weather, there were less than half the cars than last year.

The minutes from October were read on-line. There was one correction - an "o" was left out of Donna Z's names. A motion was made to accept the corrected minutes by Barb L., seconded by Sheila G. and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: George B.(online) and Pam M.

- Attached are financial statements for Friends through October.
- Current balance is \$12,679.52. Through October 2021, the balance was \$12,656.87, a year by which time we'd made far fewer gifts to the library than this year (\$7,277 last year, \$13,927 this year).
- Total income for the October used book sale was \$2,916.35.
- Expenses were
 - *\$100 cash advance*
 - *\$52.43 and \$62.41 for the preview party*
 - \$245 to Salt City Signs
 - \$83.74 and \$45 to Mary Beth Roach for more signs
 - *\$18.04 Zettle fees*
 - *\$51.70 to the highway department for disposal of 0.94 tons of unsold books*

I'm figuring the italicized lines are recurring book sale expenses

- So far this year, the net for two used book sales is \$6,238.97, likely to increase with any more online sales.
- Fall membership comparisons (September and October each year) are \$5,776 this year from 96 members, compared to \$5,791 from 104 last year.
- There are a few correction: \$80.60 for candy for OCC give away, \$17.52 for the book sale preview party and \$44.89 for office supplies. George B. will make these corrections.
- We have donated twice the amount of money to the library this year than we did last year.
- A motion to accept the corrected Treasurer's Report by John T., seconded by Mary Beth R. and approved.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Kathy D. (online)

- So far this campaign, we have 98 members who gave a total of \$5845, for an average gift of \$59.64.
- The committee met Tuesday and prepared the second reminder mailing for the 2023 membership drive.
- We will need to order new brochures by next Sept. for the 2024 membership mailing. In the past, we budgeted about \$650 for the brochures.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Susan M.

- Congratulations on a successful book sale.

- Programming is going very well. We had over a hundred people attending the program with Robin Wall Kimmerer, author of Braiding Sweetgrass. The YA version of that book is coming out today.
- Alyssa Newton and Kori Gerbig have been out in the local schools to touch base with the librarians. All the kindergarten classes from Walberta Park visited last week.
- Building and Grounds: The LED lighting has been completed. 75% of this was paid for by NYS Library Construction Grant.
- Susan M. has a funding request for a wall hanging system in the teen space similar to the one at the top of the stairs. This would go along the wall across from the television. A spec sheet was passed around. Mary T. remarked that one of her artist friends was very impressed with the ease of hanging art from this system. A motion was made to spend not more than \$660.00 for a wall hanging system for the teen space by Mary Beth R., seconded by John T. and approved.

BOOK SALE: Sue P.

The sale went very well even though we had about half the books we had in the spring. Having an extra day for the sale and one less day for donations worked very well. The free book give away on Sunday was not as well attended as we hoped it would be. Next time we will cut the open time by an hour with free books from 12 -2 and an hour to clean up. One room for the sale worked much better than using the Children's Room also. We sent six boxes of books to Nate Devita to sell on Amazon.

VETERAN'S DAY DECORATIONS: Mary Beth R.

Kathy D. will put the flags around the flagpole. Mary Beth R. will help Donna Z with a display on the Friends' Corner to celebrate our veterans.

FESTIVAL OF TREES: Mary T.

There are still a few trees that have not been picked up. Mary T. will call them again. Trees are to be returned by November 12. Several people are needed on November 18 from 10-noon to have trees photographed, bagged and set up. Mary Beth R., Deb C., Barb L., and John T. volunteered. The drawing will be December 12 at 9AM. We have purchased new tickets this year. There will be no on-line sales. A person can only win one tree so the more popular trees will be drawn first. Deb C. asked if a poster could be made with all the trees on it to hang in a window. Susan M. said we could do that if there was space available. If you have an extra power cord please let Mary T. know.

HOLIDAY CONCERT PLANNING: Pam M.

Susan M. will get the refreshments for which have already been paid. We need a friend or two to introduce Merry Mischief on Saturday, December 10. Tickets for Festival of Trees can be sold at the concert.

CRAFT GROUP: Anne A.

Anne A. wondered whether we wanted to continue to sponsor the craft group that meets on Thursday at 9:30. We have supported it for the last five years and supplied coffee although that is not really an issue any more. There is a small but enthusiastic group that would hate to see it disband and would like to see it continued at the same time. Three of the core group do go south for the winter. Susan M. said that it is nice to have a Friend there but it would not be necessary every week. A motion was made to have Friends continue supporting this group via advertising and social media by Mary T., seconded by John T. and approved.

WEB/SOCIAL MEDIA: Pam M.

- We have two Facebook pages currently and need to close one. Friends of Onondaga Free Library was created in 2016 and we no longer have access to this because the administrator has left the area. This page has more followers than the current page, Friends of OFL. Mary Beth R. can post to this page. Please only use this page. We will look to Scott Lipkowitz to help us try to merge the pages.

- Laura S. is posting to Instagram. She says we can merge Instagram and Facebook but she would need authority to sign into Facebook. Both pages need to be similar.
- We need a Communications Committee.

UPDATING THE BROCHURE: Barb L.

The brochure needs to be updated before the Membership Drive in 2023. We need new photos, giving levels need to be changed and we need to add a QR code. Mary Beth R., Pam M., Barb L., SheilaG. and Kathy D. will work on this.

BY-LAWS DISCUSSION: Pam M.

- The Ambassador Statement should go under Organization.
- Do we want standing committees or should we just leave it informal as it is now? Deb C. suggested we check with other Friends' group. Pam M. said most do have standing committees.
- Should we state that Directors and Ambassadors must participate in at least one activity?
- Pam M. will meet with Mark Wildman to discuss a platform to have Friends groups get together. Anne A. said this is a great way to share ideas and support each other.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10PM. Our next meeting will be December 4 at 7:00PM.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Parry, Secretary