

Friends of Onondaga Free Library
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
April 3, 2019

PRESENT:

Directors: Anne Andrianos, Susan Parry, Mary Beth Roach and John Thornton Absent: George Bain, Jeanette Nels, CJ Sturdevant and Donna Zeolla

OFL Staff: Susan Morgan

Members: Mary Buckout and Deb Carey

The meeting was called to order at 6:35PM by Anne A. Once again there is not a quorum so no voting can take place, including election of Directors and Officers. John T. moved to accept the February minutes with Mary Beth R. seconding. John T. moved to accept the March minutes with Mary Beth R. seconding. Neither motion could be voted upon due to lack of a quorum.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The report was read on-line and a correction was noted. 72 pants were purchased for the Shamrock Sale rather than 40. Two reports are attached as PDFs.

Current balance is \$8,653.05, compared to \$4,748.68 on March 31, 2018. A year ago, memberships were \$2,065 and gifts to the OFL \$8,500.

In early March, I replaced an 11-year-old iMac desktop computer with a new iMac. Software packages now are purchased on annual subscriptions rather than the one-time price of a decade ago. My old Quicken Essentials software is not compatible. I had to purchase new Quicken software.

You see here the cost is \$37.79. Will the Friends board authorize this as a recurring annual expense, for which I'm reimbursed? I don't use Quicken for any personal business, still balance my checkbook by hand, so this is a professional expense for me.

thanks

George

John T. moved to accept the corrected Treasurer's Report for February and Mary Beth R. seconded. John T. moved to accept the March Treasurer's Report and Mary Beth R. seconded. Mary Beth R. moved to reimburse George B. for software in the amount of \$37.79 and seconded by Susan P. Neither motion could be voted upon due to lack of a quorum.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Susan M.

Highlights of the Board of Trustees Annual Meeting:

The Friends were thanked for a great year of fundraising and gifting to the Library.

The beautiful Annual Report was handled out.

The Memorandum of Understanding was approved by the Board of Trustees. Susan P. moved to approve the MOU and seconded by Mary Beth R. Again since there was no quorum the motion could not be voted upon.

The entire property, including the parking lot, sidewalks and garden, will become a smoke-free zone on June 1, 2019. Drainage improvements for the back of the parking lot will be done this year. An application of a grant was processed in 2018 for this project but if it is not approved by the state we do have funds in the capital improvement budget.. John T. mentioned that there could be federal grant money for this project and Susan M. will look into it.

Anne A. was thanked for her article in the Annual Report on the Friends.

The total cost of the teak bench for the lobby is \$1783.32. This includes a pretreated cushion and shipping. The Library's maintenance crew would put it together. There is a six week lead time. Susan P. moved to purchase the bench, seconded by John T. with no vote taken due to lack of a quorum

Susan M. asked for a \$100.00 honorarium for Bruce Coville when he reads and signs his book at the Story Walk in Santaro Park. Susan P. moved to spend \$100.00 as an honorarium for Bruce C., seconded by John T. with no vote taken due to lack of a quorum.

Susan M. noted that Alyssa Newton is reworking the teen space and would like us to fund some of the technology. They would also like to update the Senior area. There are no figures available yet. Deb C. mentioned that there may be grant money available for these projects and she is willing to look into it.

Anne A. asked if we could have a box on the new library patrons form that would allow Friends to contact them. Susan M. will discuss this with the Board of Trustees.

OLD BUSINESS:

Membership Campaign: John T.

287 letters were sent out and 125 people became Friends, 44%, and only 7 of these were new Friends. We need to think of ways to get our membership up and get more people actively involved.

SPRING QUARTER:

Shamrock Sale: Mary Beth R.

SHAMROCK SALE – was held March 8 and 9. It seemed to be successful. According to George's report, it raised \$257.42. This includes the gift card raffle. In George's financial report, he indicated we bought 40 plants for \$240. We bought 72 plants for \$240. We ran out of shamrocks that first day! So we were able to get 12 more shamrock plants for Saturday. I paid \$39.96 out of my pocket for those, and I respectfully request to be reimbursed.

The plants all sold out by Saturday afternoon.

The raffle for the Crazy Daisies gift card raised \$71, and since it was a donation, that's all profit.

I would request that we send Jennifer Cox from Crazy Daisies a thank you card (if we haven't done so already).

I'd like to thank everyone who helped with the sale. A special shout-out to John. A friend of mine happened to visit the library that Friday afternoon, and she told me he was calling people over and actually had a line!

Anne A. moved that Mary Beth R. be reimbursed \$39.96 for plants and seconded by Susan P. Again no vote was taken due to lack of a quorum.

Geology Day: Anne A.

We need more adults to attend the afternoon session, 2:30-4. Anne A. requested 2 \$25.00 gas cards as an honorarium for the speaker and \$25.00 for ice cream. Anne A. moved that we spend \$50.00 for gas cards as an honorarium and \$25.00 for ice cream for Geology Day, seconded by Susan P. Do to a lack of quorum no vote was taken.

Book Sale: Susan P.

The committee has been getting flyers out and an e-mail blast has gone out requesting tables. Kathy DeSanctis will send labels for the post card by April 5. Sign up sheets are up.

Logo Contest: Deb C.

Packets have been handed out in person to Westhill, Faith Heritage, West Genesee and Onondaga Central. It was suggested that they also go out to OCC, Bishop Ludden, the Nation School and Corcoran. They are also available at the Library. Deb C. has seen some very nice canvas bags priced at \$400.00 for 100 bags.

SUMMER QUARTER:

Senior Art Show Reception: Anne A.

The reception will be held on Thursday, June 6, from 4PM - 6PM. Anne A. moved to advance Donna Z. \$100.00 for refreshments and decorations, seconded by Susan P. No vote was taken due to lack of a quorum.

Baseball Game: Anne A.

There will be no baseball game this year. Alyce Lee is in NYC helping her mom and sister.

Jazz Event: Mary Beth R. The committee has had two meetings. During the most recent one, when we started putting the budget together, it appears that the event will run about \$2,500. We have "shopped" it out to several caterers – Diamond Catering, Carnegie Catering and Cathy's Corner. Diamond provided us the estimate of \$2500; Carnegie is already booked for Aug. 11; and Cathy's Corner never got back to us. I reviewed The Mission's website, and when adding up prices on their menu, it came to be in the same ballpark as Diamond.

With a limited number of people we could have in the Community Room, this could put the tickets at a cost that's not feasible.

While we haven't abandoned the idea completely, we'd rather wait and do it next year, when we have more time to secure sponsors, etc., especially since so many companies start putting their marketing and advertising budgets together in October.

It was also believed that if we don't do this event right the first time, we won't get a second chance to get it right.

In the meantime, the group came up with another idea. It won't make a whole lot of money, but it would help to make the Friends group better known throughout the community. We could set up a refreshment table with simple snacks

like juice, water and chips at the Story Walk with Bruce C. We could have a strawberry festival for Friends to bring a friend to. this may work better in the fall when we have more time to plan.

Next year will give us more time to find sponsors. We could explore using Dr Swartwood's parking lot for the event. Possibly we could give a discount for Friends to the Jazz concert.

There was a brief discussion about our future. We have not had a quorum for two months. What does this signify? Anne A. suggested going to a meeting of the Friends of the Cazenovia Library since they have a waiting list of people wanting to be Directors. What are they doing that we aren't? She will look into us visiting them.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25. The next meeting will be May 1, 2019, at 6:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Parry, Secretary