

Friends of Onondaga Free Library
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors

Date: March 6, 2024

Present:

Directors: Barbara Leigh, Pam McLaughlin, Susan Parry, Mary Beth Roach, Mary Taylor and John Thornton

Staff: Susan Morgan

Members: Lore DePalo and Cara Kirkby

Absent: George Bain, Shelia Gaudons and Donna Zeolla

ANNOUNCEMENTS: General Discussion

- There was no February meeting due to lack of quorum.
- Today is Susan M.'s 18th anniversary at OFL. Congratulations!

TREASURER'S REPORT: George B. via e-mail and Pam M.

Attached are the financials through February, about as quiet a month as possible, with two memberships and the monthly online used book sales.

Our current checking account balance of \$9,509.28 compares to \$9,588.74 as of March 4, 2023.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Barb L., seconded by Mary T. and approved. We need to know where George B. stores the Treasurer's reports and what format is used.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Susan M.

The Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees in March 27 at 6:00PM in the Community Room. This is open to the public and we would love to have some Friends there. Please let Susan M. know if you can come. The meeting highlights the previous year, looks at goals for the upcoming year and holds the election of new officers and trustees.

We are working on some great spring programming. A request was made for funding of new board games for children and teens. A motion to purchase new board games for children and teens not to exceed \$500.00 was made by Mary T., seconded by John T. and approved.

A motion was made to sponsor two dance series (one in May in the evening for rumba and salsa and another in October during the day) at the cost of \$1200.00 by Mary Beth R., seconded by Sue P. and approved.

Scott Lipkowitz is looking into a chartered bus trip to Montezuma Wildlife Refuge this summer. We would have a guide on the bus. The factory tour did not work out due to security.

Scott L. would also like two new tablets to be used for training purposes. There will be more to come on these requests in the future.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Kathy DeSanctis via e-mail

As of March 1, 2024, we have 146 members for total donations of \$8596 and an average donation of \$58.88.

Right now, Mary Beth R. gets the paper forms from Elizabeth Costello who does our membership data? Usually, Mary Beth R. shreds them around this time. We will keep them for a bit longer. Lore D. needs to know what format and process Elizabeth C. uses.

FESTIVAL OF TREES: Mary T.

Mary T. has been looking for trees, but they are all more expensive than last year. She will keep looking, but would like \$300.00 to be allocated for the purchase of trees when she finds them. A motion to spend \$300.00 on trees for the 2024 Festival was made by Mary Beth R., seconded by John T. and approved.

LAUNDROMAT LITTLE FREE LIBRARY: Mary Beth R.

This has become a dumping ground for old clothes, shoes, toys and junk. Mary Beth R. took three bags of books and cleaned the shelves and when she checked on it this week, all the books were gone and there was another collection of junk. She would like to inform Tim O'Connell, owner, and pull it next week. A motion to disband the Little Free Library at Colonial Laundromat in Nedrow was made by Mary Beth R., second by Sue P. and approved. The shelf will be stored in Sue P.'s basement. At this time there are two card tables, several totes and milk crates that are used at the book sale that are stored there.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Lore D. and Pam M.

Lore D. has agreed to be our social-media Director. She will post to Facebook and Instagram. We were never able to merge the two Facebook accounts so we will delete the older one. There is a notice on the page that it will be deleted and a link set up to the newer page. We will need a volunteer to post to social media when Lore `D. is not available. Barb L. volunteered. We will set up a meeting with Chantal Rothermel, Lore `D., Pam. M., Sheila G. and Barb L.

We need to post an announcement about the Annual Meeting on April 3. This needs to be done two weeks in advance of the meeting. Mary Beth R. will also send an e-mail blast.

We need to get all our information in one place with backup. Right now, documents are stored on personal computers and in other places on the internet. We need to clean up our website. Lore `D. will be working on consolidating data and storing it in one place with backup. Some of the documents will be read only and others will be able to be amended by certain people only. Right now, everything should be sent to Lore `D. AND Pam M. before anything is sent out to directors or the public.

TELESCOPE PURCHASE: Mary Beth R.

Mary Beth R. noticed that Hazard Branch Library has a telescope in the Library of Things and thought that we could purchase one for our library. Susan M. said that after much discussion with the staff they would like to decline the offer. The staff thought that storage, maintenance and repairs would be too much for the library to handle.

FOCL TICKET DRAWING: Pam M.

FOCL has given us two tickets to Elin Hilderbrand on April 30. Mary Beth R. will send an e-mail blast asking the membership to notify us if they are not interested. We will pick a random number to correspond with our membership list to determine the winner.

GREEN HILLS LITTLE FREE LIBRARY REPAIRS: Mary Beth R.

Somehow the plexiglass in the door of the little free library was broken. Lance Parry took the door off and Mary Beth R. found someone to repair it at no cost. Lance P. installed the door and it is back up and running.

MEETING TIME CHANGE REQUEST: Barb L.

As we all are aging it is getting more difficult to drive at night. Barb L. suggested moving the meeting to a different time of day. Perhaps we could do a brown bag lunch although this was not helpful in getting our ambassador group to grow. We will discuss this more at a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55PM. Our next meeting will be April 3, 2024 at 7:00PM. This will be our Annual Meeting with election of Officers and Directors.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Parry, Secretary