

Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library, Inc.
Monthly Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2011

The Meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by President John Deibert. Those in attendance were Mark Aronson, Bob Baker, Caroline Browne, Karen Brodsky, John Deibert, Doug Doremus, Elizabeth Faulkner, Rick Gallo, Barbara Hyzer, Jos Kadam, Harold Kuskin, Roni Larini, Kathy Redling, Jackie Somers, and Michael Viola.

President's Remarks

John Deibert welcomed new board members Michael and Caroline, as well as Shikha who was not in attendance. A round of introductions was held for the new members' benefit. John shared the Board Member's manual with the new members and asked all board members to use the manual as needed.

From the recent Library Board of Trustees meeting John reported their reorganization as well as updates from the Library Foundation's next steps.

Correspondence - Rita Stein was absent, but Jackie Somers shared a thank you letter from the fourth Library Staff department, Children's Services.

Treasurer's Report-

Jackie Somers reviewed contributions to date were at \$26,709.00 with \$1000.00 of a matching gift still to come in. Jackie noted that Waleski and Keating, Accounting of Basking Ridge has done the Friends' Compilation and Tax Filings for the past few years. Prior years' 990 forms are on the Friends portion of the Bernardsville Library web site, and cost \$1350 in 2010 to have completed. Jackie made a motion to hire the same Accounting firm with the amount of \$1400 designated to pay for the Compilation. Roni Larini seconded the motion and following a roll call vote the motion carried.

Minutes Approval

The minutes of the Board's Annual meeting were previously provided to all board members. Kathy Redling made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 17, 2010 Annual meeting with corrections noted, Jackie seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved with four members abstaining from the vote. The minutes of the Board's Organizational meeting were previously provided to all board members. Jackie Somers made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 17, 2010 meeting, Rick Gallo seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved with four members abstaining from the vote.

Director's Report- Karen Brodsky informed the Friends Board that Donald Buset has succeeded Stephanie Wallace as President of the Board of Trustees, along with new officers have been elected and one new board member joined. On behalf of the library and the patrons, Karen thanked the Friends for the Sony eBook Reader and noted that the Library is expanding this area of their collection and providing several public programs on eBook readers. Updates to the library homepage have been made on a temporary basis and due to unknown costs and timetables, a new request will be

presented to the Friends next month, rather than requesting a carryover of funds from 2010.

Karen noted that the Easy English News for the ESL classes and NJ Library Compact Disk Circuit membership were well received purchases. Children's programs and audio books purchased with Friends and SHEF donations were purchased were also well utilized by patrons.

Thank you letters from each department (Reader Services, Adult Programs, and Technical Services) not previously read were shared with the Friends board members. A summary of attendance and costs for the Sundays at 3 and Senior Day programs from the Public Relations Coordinator was shared and a discussion was held regarding the board's ability to execute an event held on a weekday. Following the discussion Elizabeth made a motion that the Program Committee will continue the support of Senior Day as part of the Adult Programs budget line with Friends food donations and facilitation as much as possible. Harold Kuskin seconded the motion and with a vote of all present, the motion passed. Jos Kadam noted that Kathy Redling would chair the event again this year on Friday, June 10th.

Committee Reports

Finance- Mark Aronson noted that \$1415 was carried over from 2010 to 2011 with \$1000 being for Children's Enrichment and \$415 for Youth Awards. Mark made a motion to approve the modified 2011 Budget with the carryover amounts. John Deibert asked if there were any questions, and they were answered. Harold Kuskin seconded the motion and following a roll call vote, the motion carried.

Fund Raising-Doug Doremus shared a Mock-up of the Donation Web Site. He informed the Board that the Fund Raising Committee had chosen Salesforce.com as our donor management database and platform. Discussion followed regarding timing and details of online donations functionality for Friends donors.

Doug shared information on possible partnerships with the Bernardsville Chamber of Commerce, future Brick Sale Campaign efforts, and a possible Children's Read Around Town event. John Deibert thanked Doug along with the Fund Raising and Finance committees for their work, as well as Friends board members who sent out letters. Harold suggested that in the upcoming campaign letter that some of the phrases from Library staff thank you notes could be used.

Nominating Committee- Elizabeth noted that there is one current open position on the board and in November 2011 three valued members: John Deibert, Barbara Hyzer and Jos Kadam would be leaving after 6 years of service.

Programs-John thanked Jos for running an excellent and well received program in December. Jos noted that the next program was on Sunday 1/23 at 3 featuring Jazz Trio, a local group.

Publicity- Caroline Browne was thanked for her letter to the editor regarding Mrs. Casey's retirement.

Volunteer Recognition- Friends provided Library Volunteers with Gift Bags of Holiday Cookies as well as supplied the refreshments for the Wednesday 12/15 BHS Madrigals holiday concert. Bob Baker thanked the all male crew who assembled the Gift Bags. Roni Larini graciously offered to host the annual Volunteer Luncheon at her home in late May. She and Bob will select a date.

Ad-Hoc Committee- Harold and Tom Shea have been working on reviewing and considering possible revisions to the Friends By-Laws. One question they have been struggling with is, "who is a member of the Friends?" Currently it is individuals who contribute or volunteer. A discussion of this topic was held, and how members are notified of their actual membership and its definition was discussed.

Old Business- John reminded board members that the retirement reception for Mrs. Kennedy, History Room volunteer, was on Sunday March 5th.

New Business- none

Roni Larini made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Elizabeth Faulkner seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Kathy Redling