

Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library, Inc.
July 5th 2017 Meeting Minutes

The Friends board meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by President Nancy Verduin. In attendance were Bob Baker, Katherine Harris, Jamie Bertoni, John Bertoni, Dan Lincoln, Debbie Heimerl, Maria Myers, Sarah Glazar, Stephen Autenrieth, Jerry Clark, Amy DeMilt, and Pat Carroll. Not in attendance were Amy Meyers, Shikha Mayer, Nancy Gogen, Joanne Kavanaugh, Roni Larini, Lori Pakrul, Dennis Dooley, and Tim Coleman. Also in attendance were Leslie Brown-Witt and Shura Arnold.

President's Remarks and Notifications

No comments

Vice President's Remarks

No comments.

Correspondence

No correspondence

Treasurer's Report

Income for June 1981 donations, 51 in matching, received donations from Sundays at 3 and senior breakfast. Expense 1033 to library, 108 po box, and one more?? Filed NJ charitable registration on time. CPA audit is done, has copies on hand if you would like to review. There are footnotes in the back - charging us \$1,350 for the last 9 years to complete the audit. They would like to raise the rate to \$1,600 (increase of \$250). If we do not want footnotes the price will remain the same. Please read thru the footnotes and we can decide if we want to keep the footnotes or not in the audit report. Debbie asked what the importance is of the footnotes and do we need them. Bob said looking at exhibit A - the restricted number is what we will stay with regardless of market fluctuations. Market fluctuations are reflected in unrestricted. So the CPA will no longer need to make the annual calculation. Bob passed out the financial report, we are at halfway point thru the year. Overall the expenses have not been as high because the majority of fundraising expense is at year end. To date we have given \$15,200 approx to the library; the budget for the year is \$42,250.

Nancy asked about the Media and Debit card line - Shura commented the library uses the operating budget funds first and then use the FBPL debit card for purchases. Nancy reminded everyone to add Amazon Smile to personal spending to benefit the library.

Library Report

Construction is in progress - installation of new generator. The generator will act as a buffer so there will hopefully be less outages. Construction is currently ahead of schedule. Library is continuing to investigate the questions we asked regarding the new app the library would like to purchase. Pat Kennedy is gathering information from other current users before coming back with answers. The library has a pop-up museum - 72 Hours of Space - a pop-up air and space museum. This is not restricted to Bernardsville community, anyone can attend. The library is receiving the display from Bedwell School and will be adding to it - alien dissections, scavenger hunts, photo ops with aliens, paper airplane demos, science tellers, telescopes, alien crafts, space buttons, constellations, space ice cream, etc. All activities will be during regular business hours.

Nancy asked what the expected timeline is for the mobile app and wondering if there is anything we can do around National Friends Week. Shura has not received any negative feedback. Has

received information regarding the calendars and how they integrate with the app. The price is firm so there will not be any changes there. Pat continues to speak with other libraries on the interface. One of questions they are researching is the use of google analytics but we Shura is not clear on the data received from analytics. Library would like to roll out as soon as possible. Dan asked if servers were on backup. Shura responded that everything is on basic UPS battery backups currently. The battery backup should be able to carry thru the 13 second switch over to the generator. The generator only covers the library, not the offices downstairs.

Programs

Movies about 6 people attended the screening and the attendees made suggestions on how to attract more viewers. Next movie is July 28th (always the 4th friday of the month). The movie will be The Great Gatsby. We are in need of a volunteer.

Ice Cream Social August 14th, Dan confirmed Penguin Ice Cream will provide ice cream again. Dan will send out sign out sheet for volunteers 6-7pm.

Booked Michaela McClain to come back for Sundays at 3. Has been 3 years since last performance.

Seniors breakfast was really well attended. The band was really good and enjoyed by all.

Fundraising Committee

Fall Bash - Nancy printed flyers and cards. Katherine mailed out cards to the attendees from last year. Jamie and Katherine are working on silent auctions - Katherine will prepare a form for silent auction donation items. Dan offered to hand out donation forms when he posts signs in September. Nancy would like to put out sandwich boards starting in September and move it around so more people see it. Various locations were discussed. We would like to purchase yard signs to post in various "friends" yards.

Bingo - we have all supplies for bingo, just need volunteers. Date set for September 22nd. Theme should be fall / autumn themed to lead into the annual fall ball. We should approach Jersey Mikes to have subs donated to sell at the Bingo. Need set-up volunteers to start at 5:30 and Bingo to start at 7pm.

Campaign

Subcommittee met and redrafted the campaign letter. Will be sending out at next meeting to review before mailing.

Public Relations Committee

Just met on Friends of National Library Week. Pat, Maria and Nancy are the committee. Talked about doing a scavenger hunt for the things the Friends supply to the library so that participants can see what it is we do for the library. Possibly have prizes involved.

Maybe a raffle for DNA Ancestry.com or ticket to Fall Bash. Have a separate raffle for under 18 and over 18.

Would like to showcase upcoming programs and events for the library that we can sponsor and promote during the week. Possibly a bookmark contest for the kids. Can put up banners and kids can write on it what they love about the library. Are the cases available for the week so we can put things in them for "Friends Week".

Newsletter - what are everyone's thoughts on the newsletter? Please take a look at it and see what your thoughts are.

Finance Committee

Jamie passed out finance report. The report shows what the investments are and what the fees are. This breakdown is now in accordance with the revised Investment Policy.

Volunteer Recognition

Well attended and last month.

Nominating

Nothing new to report. Looking for someone to step up.

Look at calendar ahead and seats open to fill. Next meeting August 2nd.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.