

Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library, Inc.
October 1, 2014 Meeting Minutes

The Friends Board meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by President Roni Larini. In attendance were Bob Baker, John Bertoni, Caroline Browne, Dorothy Carter, Doug Doremus, Elizabeth Faulkner, Sarah Glazar, Deborah Heimerl, Roni Larini, Dan Lincoln, Shikha Mayer, and Nancy Verduin. Not in attendance were Steve Autenrieth, Denis Dooley, Megan Hartley, Janet George Murnick, Maria Myers, and Laurie Och. Also in attendance were April Judge, Patrice O'Regan Cummings, and Leslie Brown-Witt.

Public Comments

Patrice Cummings reported that Mayor Honecker has appointed Valerie Zanardi to fill the opening on the Board of Trustees. Also, the BoT will hold public meetings with two consultants vying to be selected for space repurposing designs. These meetings will be held on November 20 and 21 at 5:00 p.m. The main objectives are to move youth services in order to reduce the distracting noise, and to create more small meeting/study spaces.

Leslie Brown-Witt complimented the Friends on its Author Luncheon held the day before. She said the Foundation works to fulfill the immediacy of the Library's budget shortfall, and to that end, at its last meeting it donated \$40K, bringing its YTD total to \$70K. Since June it has been concentrating on major donors, \$10-\$100K.

President's Remarks and Notifications

Roni Larini reported that the State Attorney General rejected our gambling license application. Nor may we serve alcohol. So, for now bingo has been removed as a fundraiser this year. However, the Author Luncheon with Ilene Beckerman was very successful. The Friends raised \$2,900, plus we sold 53 books. Roni distributed invitations to board members for a party at her home in November.

Approval of Minutes

Doug Doremus moved to accept the meeting minutes of September 3, 2014, as changed by Elizabeth, and Nancy Verduin seconded. The board approved them, with four abstentions.

Vice President's Report

Megan Hartley was not present.

Correspondence

Nancy Verduin said there was no correspondence.

Treasurer's Report

Bob Baker distributed his summary reports. From September 2013 through August 2014, the Friends received \$41K from 211 donors, including matching gifts. A bank account was opened with \$100 for bingo, per regulations. Roni spent \$140 on gambling license application fees. Debbie Heimerl moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, and Caroline Browne seconded. It passed unopposed.

Library Director's Report

April Judge showed us the brochures for One Book Bernardsville, noting it should be a fun month. October 19-25 is National Friends of Library week. Tammy Lee, Youth Services Manager, would like us to carry over \$2,500 to 2015 in order to purchase an updated A/V project system, and a

movie license for \$750. Other departments would be able to use these as well. April will check the projection and sound systems. The lease renewal for off-site storage shared by the Library and the Friends is due December 9. (There was discussion about removing our stuff/papers, and possibly to the Dunster-Squibb building, per Dan Lincoln. If we renew, the \$700 will come from our Undesignated line item.) The Volunteers of the Year reception will be on Sunday, November 9, when the VITA tax volunteers will be honored (including our own Bob Baker).

Committee Reports

Finance - Doug Doremus will forward the proposed 2015 budget via email this month.

Fundraising - Janet George Murnick was not present. Roni said the Committee will meet soon. To raise interest in the High Tea, Nancy said she has created a tea basket for the Circulation Desk. Patrons may enter a chance to win it when checking out books.

Nominating - John Bertoni distributed a list of proposed officers and committee chairs for 2015. The board learned that Dorothy Carter and Megan Hartley will be stepping down, creating two vacancies.

Program - Shikha Mayer informed us that a Sinatra program is scheduled for October 12 and History of Jazz for December 7. She will email her Sundays at Three sign-up sheet.

Public Relations - Caroline Browne said there was a nice write-up for the author luncheon in the paper.

Volunteer Recognition - Sarah Glazar will reserve a room for December's cookies and candy bag stuffing.

Old Business

With regard to the Youth Services Awards, Roni said we will keep \$350 in the budget. Doug suggested purchasing a new, "fresher," mailing list for the fund drive letter.

John moved and Debbie seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting closed at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Faulkner
Recording Secretary