

Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library, Inc.
May 4th 2016 Meeting Minutes

The Friends board meeting was called to order at 7:31pm by President Nancy Verduin. In attendance were Bob Baker, Katherine Harris, Jamie Bertoni, Stephen Autenrieth, Dan Lincoln, Shikha Mayer, Lori Pakrul and Jennifer Paragano. Not in attendance were Debbie Heimerl, Janet George Murnick, Sarah Glazar, Denis Dooley, Maria Myers, Joanne Kavanaugh, John Bertoni, and Roni Larini. Also in attendance were Patrice Cummings, Pat Kennedy-Grant, Pat Carroll.

President's Remarks and Notifications

Nancy and Shikha welcomed Pat Carroll. Pat has been nominated to join FBPL board; she has been very active in the library and community for many years. The Board motioned for approval and the FBPL Board voted unanimously in favor. Nancy also welcomed Pat Kennedy-Grant, who was in attendance in place of Shura for the library.

Vice President's Remarks

John was not in attendance. However, Nancy attended the Foundation meeting in place of John and asked Leslie to update the Board about the Foundation meeting.

Leslie stated the Foundation approved a payment to the library of \$25,000 - this is the second payment this year to the library bringing total contributed to the library to \$50,000. Homes of Distinction is coming up on May 15th; currently have sold approximately 130 reservations. The home has been beautifully restored to original with contemporary decor. The major donor campaign is under way. Janet George Murnick is on the steering committee. The goal is to raise \$3 million dollars over the next three years to secure the future of the library. The Foundation is training ambassadors, if anyone is interested, there will be a meeting on June 2nd at 5:30pm. They would also like to be able to state 100% participation from all three boards if at all feasible.

Patrice Cummings provided an update from the Trustees. She attended the talk with Barry Thompson regarding the home featured in Homes of Distinction this year. He did a great job providing information on the home and its history as well as praise the library's historical collection and programs. The Planning Committee will be reviewing the options to join a consortium at the June meeting and will make a recommendation. The repurposing of the library has been put on hold until a decision has been made regarding the consortium. A Trustee member met with the Boro to convert the heating system from electric to gas. This will be a partial conversion with work to begin end of summer. It is not clear what the cost savings will be. The Trustees thanked the Foundation for making the second contribution to the library and thanked the Friends for the programs we provide.

Community Outreach

Debbie was absent and nothing new to report.

Correspondence

Maria was absent however reported condolence and get well cards were sent out to Caroline and Jennifer, respectively. Also sent a Thank You to Spa Rejuv for the donation they made.

Treasurer's Report

Bob reported it was a quiet month as this is the off-season. He made payments to the volunteer luncheon and library programming. There was income of approximately \$430 - this does not include funds from most recent Bingo or Sundays at 3. The accountant is ready to file the 990 Form and the NJ Charitable registration has been filed. The audit will take place over the summer and will be able to present those results in August.

Bob motioned for approval to donate \$262 to the library for the volunteer tax program use of printers - this donation would cover the cost of paper and toner used. This would be one-time donation this year and budgeted for future years. Motion approved unanimously.

Library Report

Pat Kennedy-Grant provided the library report in Shura's absence. She thanked the Friends for the volunteer luncheon and stated how wonderful it was to have the event in the library. The library has purchased a museum pass for Grounds for Sculpture. Also, playaways, DVDs, and large print books have been purchased with the help of our support to the library. She thanked us again for supporting the programs.

Nancy mentioned the purchase of furniture for the meeting space downstairs. This will be funded from the capital budget. Pat stated they have some options ready for Nancy to review.

Finance Committee

Jamie had nothing new to report.

Fundraising Committee

Jennifer passed around sign-up sheets for upcoming Bingo. The April Bingo attendance was down from previous month. The next Bingo night is May 20th - same night as Sounds Around Town. We can use the sandwich board to place a sign near the street for people to see. There will be door prizes again as these seem to be enjoyed. Nancy provided the updated flyer - Maye Flowers. Nancy asked the Chamber of COmmerce to include the Llibrary Bingo event on the map for Sounds Around Town - however received no response. The Gaming Commission renewal needs to be paid.

Katherine provided an update on the Author event scheduled for October 28th - We have secured the DJ - Charlie. This will be at no cost to us. Ticket price will be \$85 and there will be silent auction and 50/50 as well as a possible balloon pop at the event.

Nominating Committee

Nancy reminded we need a replacement for Caroline - Public Relations. There are three spots opening for 2017 as well. There needs to be succession planning for all positions, at least two deep.

Program Committee

Dan reported the Sundays at 3 with Carnaby Street Duo was very well attended. People asked for us to have them come again! There were 61 attendees and standing ovation!! The next event is the Senior Breakfast on June 3rd. Please provide hot food, as the pastry items are not a big hit. The theme will be Scotch Soul Rock n' Roll. Looking ahead: October 9th and December events are in the planning.

Volunteer Recognition

Sarah was absent. Youth Awards are coming up on June 1st at 7pm. We will present the youth with Award Certificates, gift cards, and enjoy cake and goodies.

Public Comments

Maria Myers was absent however is working on the online manual. Jennifer provided an update on working with VNA to provide books to the homebound. Pat Kennedy stated the library does provide a delivery service however it has only been used twice in the past four years. They have provided other similar programs and they have not worked out for various reasons in the past. However believes a well planned program will work. Volunteers are the key ingredient. Meeting adjourned at 8:42pm.