

Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library, Inc.
January 8, 2014 Meeting Minutes

The Friends Board meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Roni Larini. In attendance were Mark Aronson, Steve Autenrieth, Bob Baker, Caroline Browne, Dorothy Carter, Denis Dooley, Doug Doremus, Elizabeth Faulkner, Megan Hartley, Deborah Heimerl, Roni Larini, Janet George Murnick, Maria Myers, and Nancy Verduin. Not in attendance were John Bertoni, Sarah Glazar, Dan Lincoln, and Shikha Mayer. Also in attendance were Pat Kennedy-Grant of the Library, Terry Thompson and Patrice O'Regan Cummings of the Library Board of Trustees, and Laurie Och.

Approval of Minutes

Elizabeth Faulkner moved to accept the November 6, 2013 Annual Meeting minutes and Reorganization Meeting minutes. Denis Dooley seconded. The motion passed with one abstention from Debbie Heimerl.

President's Remarks

Roni Larini welcomed new board member Maria Myers and guest Laurie Och. She distributed documents for the Board of Directors Information Manual: list of committee assignments for 2014; list of officers and committee chairs; the revised By-Laws adopted in November. Roni informed members of several upcoming dates: a reception on January 12 to welcome the Library's new director, April Judge; the first Sundays at Three concert this year on January 19; the Foundation's reception at Studio 7 on January 26. Roni showed board members the thank you card Ed English created and sent to Governor Christine Todd Whitman. It included a compilation of photographs he took on October 27, 2013.

Vice President's Report

Megan Hartley attended the Library Foundation's meeting on January 7, when elections were held. Leslie Brown-Witt is Chairperson; Joan Contess, Vice Chair; J.T. Thomas, Treasurer; and Jim Costello, Secretary. The Foundation is planning a Home of Distinction fundraiser event at the end of March, and another event in June.

Correspondence

Debbie Heimerl sent a sympathy card to Sarah Glazar after the recent death of her father-in-law. She then passed the responsibilities to Nancy Verduin, the new Correspondence Secretary.

Treasurer's Report

Bob Baker reported that the campaign year, September 1, 2013-August 31, 2014, so far has raised \$33K, which includes the \$10K gross from the Christine Todd Whitman event. At this point, there have been 197 donors compared to 245 last year, and many of them - 30% - are new. Matching gifts have increased dramatically. He distributed his Summary of 2013 YTD & 2012 Cash Flows and Summary of 12/31/13 and 12/31/2012 Net Assets documents. Bob noted that credit card donations have increased, but so have the related expenses. (Doug Doremus said he researched other vendors, but they all have similar costs.) In the calendar year 2013, the Friends received contributions totaling \$36,226. At the end of 2013, the net assets totaled \$364,939, a net increase of \$19,541 over 2012. "We had a great year," Bob concluded.

Library Report

Pat Kennedy-Grant of the Library asked everyone to come meet April Judge, the new Library Director, at the January 12 reception. April will attend the next Friends board meeting. Pat also reported that the Library has updated its entire computer and Polaris systems.

Committee Reports

Finance - Mark Aronson and Doug Doremus presented their combined two-page report; the new first page for Revenue, the second for Expenses. The differences from the proposed 2014 budget include adding \$3K to the campaign expenses line item, for letterhead, and \$4K to Other Fund Raising (special events). These increases are offset by additions to the revenue page, including interest income. The adjusted budget total is \$56,880.00. Mark moved that the board approve the revised 2014 budget as presented. Janet Murnick seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Then, sadly, the board accepted Mark's (foretold) resignation.

Fundraising - Janet George Murnick/Debbie Heimerl. Janet reported that the committee met twice since the November board meeting. Several speaker ideas had been discussed for a large event. In addition, smaller events are under consideration (mother/daughter tea, mystery dinner, 10% restaurant donation evening, beer-tasting, etc.). Discussion ensued about these ideas and several others.

Nominating - John Bertoni was not present.

Program - Shikha Mayer was not present. Dorothy Carter talked about the Les Paul/Mary Ford Tribute program scheduled for Sunday, February 19.

Public Relations - Caroline Browne. The *Bernardsville News* included a photograph of the Ice Cream Social in its Year in Pictures summary. Caroline noted the Friends will continue to host this popular summer children's event.

Volunteer Recognition - Sarah Glazar was not present. Roni thanked board members who helped stuff the holiday goodie bags in December.

Public Comments

Terry Thompson of the Board of Trustees thanked the Friends board for its support. Two BoT members' terms have expired: John La Duc, treasurer, and Mike Gouldin. At the borough reorganization meeting, the Mayor appointed Mark Krook as Treasurer, and Skip Orza. Donald Buset is stepping down as President.

Old Business/New Business

None was presented.

Debbie moved, and Bob seconded, to end the first board meeting of 2014. All were in favor, and the meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Faulkner
Recording Secretary