Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library Board of Directors

April 18, 2018 Minutes

Attendance: Nancy Verduin, Deb Heimerl, Nancy Goguen, Jamie Bertoni, Pat Kennedy-Grant, Amy DeMilt, Alexandria Arnold, Steve Autenrieth, Eugene Kalkin, Pam Isenberg, Shawn Reischmann, Lori Pakrul, Jerry Clark, Bob Baker, Karl Piirimue, John Bertoni, Pat Carroll, Dan Lincoln, Maria Myers, Patrice Cummings (BOT)

Guest: Wendy Supron
Absent: Tim Coleman, Shikha Mayer, Denis Dooley

President remarks- Nancy-

Wendy Supron (guest speaker) director of development for Morristown Festival of Books. (10/12-10/13/18 this year). Keynote event on Friday evening of Festival is only fee based event. 1300 seats last year for Ron Chernow (“Grant”) sold out. Saturday free and open to all 10-5 with a closing event. Largest draw from Morris County, then Somerset. Festival is funded by donations and staffed by volunteers.

2018 theme not established yet. All published authors, but there will be a contest this year for self-published authors or novels. Pat KG – is volunteering and there is a committee of readers (23 to date), looking for volunteers. Every book to be read by 2 people, grading, characterization, enjoyment, etc. Hope to choose 2 winners announced in September. Would like to have an ancillary program for all of the authors – in the Bernardsville library. Opens the door to self-published authors. Winners will get a panel at the Festival with moderator.

Request for $1000 donation from Friends – something exciting, get the library out, free publicity. Flyers will be issued, and will be posted in each library. Will email their 10,000 supporters, all of the newspapers will have a piece about the next great author. Prominently will be displayed as a sponsor of the self-published author contest. Expectation for contest is 3 years if successful. Library could opt out. Many books are self-published – including 50 Shades of Gray. Have no idea of the amount of books, could be an onslaught provides an avenue of publicity and highlights self-published books.

Should we donate funds in exchange for increased publicity and visibility? VOTE: to further pursue? Show of hands – those interested only 4 voted in favor of further pursuing. Definite nos - 6.

OUTSTANDING ISSUES: can we advertise our golf event, can we have access of the database, as well as the breadth of the sponsorship and advertising. (Pam will speak to Pat and report at next meeting 5/21 meeting)

Foundation Lottery gift basket ($5- $10 to Pat) and wine for pull ($20 wine to donate)
Please give donations to Pat, gearing up for the fundraiser, looking for donations and wine bottles $20 minimum, please bring donation of wine to the library.

ESL program consideration for donation. 20 years had a group of volunteers and individual coordinator who has moved on, 4 sessions a week 400 people/month. Library is interested in retaining a contract worker – not
a volunteer. Request is $5000 to coordinate mid-August – May, four sessions a week (Sept-November it will run, but coordinator is expected from August-May), to pay for the contractor, for an annual contract. Do we want to fund? If so, how much? Right now being managed by library staff. Independent contractor – couple of hours in afternoons, then some evening. Formula per Shura – 6-7 hours, Monday and Thursday – 10 hours admin 16.50/hour is a blended rate. Volunteers are ample, just need coordinator.

Vote – aye in favor supporting
Vote- dollar amount – offer $5k with the caveat that if any other funding can be found, that would be max. Agreed all in favor.

**Vice President Remarks**- John

**Recording Secretary**- Amy

**Correspondence** – Maria

**Treasurer’s report**- Bob. Gave library $1200 month, someone brought a brick. Financials will go to accountant in May as non-profit taxes, and audit

**Library Update**- Shura
Dinosaur days 90 of the 100 books we purchased went out. The youth enrichment fund was used to update the dinosaur collection, great ROI. (182 people) 12 new patron cards. See handout
Montclair art museum passes
Couple of building issues – plumbing leak in ladies’ room; squirrel ate hole in the soffit and the squirrel was caught and released.

**Reports by committee chairs**-
**Finance**: Jamie

Youth recognition award 6/6 tentative date. Lori will confirm date.

**Fundraising**- Mini Golf Discussion
3 confirmed hole sponsors; another interested. 10 people interested from the Chamber of Commerce. Shawn is doing a mailing to all of the Chamber business members. Will follow up and provide full package. Over next 6 weeks will have follow up campaign to determine if they are interested.

Anyone interested in disseminating info or packages please identify persons interested. Board of trustees may be interested – need to follow up on this.

Roxbury library had mini golf last Saturday. Good crowd. $25/family. Had crafts and gymnastics. Not sure how successful. Could be a good avenue to follow up if anyone knows an in there to determine success and logistics.

USGA is not interested in the event at this time perhaps we can do showcase of some golf memorabilia in library and may start dialogue.
Need more people to engage in the mini-golf. Need to close some sales for firm hole commitment. When mass mailing goes out will need volunteers to follow up. Need someone to take over administrative part of the sponsorship Deb volunteered.

Request by foundation to hold off until May.
Telephone solicitation volunteers: Gerry, Dan, Bob, Nancy, Shawn
Send along potential sponsors to Nancy.
Jaimie will work with sponsors.
Once we get through May we will need further volunteers aligned.

Other events for 2018?

Fundraising met and reviewed options:
• Author event in library with desserts
• Raffle event or non-raffle ??
• Discussion tabled for next meeting
Deb volunteered for capital campaign committee.

Public Relations-
Instagram Teen Contest- Leprechaun on the Shelf  3/10 – 3/17 unfortunately the event did not produce any Instagram entries but had a good time providing goodies on St Patrick’s Day.

Programs-
Sunday 4/29 Fieldstone Early Music Ensemble Baroque Music is the next event. Set-up, food and clean-up.
June 1st senior day trumpet band 6 person set-up – more to come.

Next Meeting: May 21