

Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library, Inc.
November 5, 2014 Reorganization Meeting Minutes

The Friends Reorganization meeting was called to order at 7:36 p.m. by President Roni Larini. In attendance were Steve Autenrieth, Bob Baker, Denis Dooley, Doug Doremus, Elizabeth Faulkner, Sarah Glazar, Deborah Heimerl, Roni Larini, Janet George Murnick, and Maria Myers. Not in attendance were John Bertoni, Caroline Browne, Dan Lincoln, Shikha Mayer, Laurie Och, and Nancy Verduin. Also in attendance were Dorothy Carter, April Judge, Terry Thompson, and Leslie Brown-Witt.

President's Remarks

Roni Larini said she will hand out committee assignments in January. Then she moved on to her bingo tales (of woe). It turns out the State was looking for specific details on: purchasing bingo equipment, the bingo games to be played, the prizes, and exact dates. So, the Friends are bagging bingo. Roni announced the Community Outreach position at the Foundation meeting, and Eva Bostek-Brady has volunteered to be the Foundation's counterpart to Debbie Heimerl. The Library's website should be updated with the new board and positions.

Library Director's Report

April Judge reported that our Library has once again earned a five-star rating from the Library Journal. Bernardsville is one of three libraries in New Jersey, in its budge category, to receive this distinction. (Avalon and Ocean City are the other two.) One Book Bernardsville was a success, and a committee will be formed to select a book for next October. The Library's volunteer recognition reception will be Sunday, November 9, when the VITA volunteers will be honored. The deadline for patrons to submit surveys on the Library's space repurposing plans is November 14. A team of three people is researching a new projection system. April thanked the Friends for its funding and donations this year.

Public Comments

Leslie Brown-Witt said the Foundation presented the Library with an oversized check for \$70,000 - the amount of money it donated in 2014 - at its November meeting. Moving forward, the board will work on its major donor campaign and its 2015 Homes of Distinction event. She welcomed anyone who is interesting in helping.

Terry Thompson reported that the BoT is starting its 2015 budget discussions with the borough. For the first time in 5-6 years, the mandatory minimum will increase, slightly. Over those same years, the borough council funded the Library well over the minimum. Earlier today, two space repurposing presentations were made. Before moving forward, the borough's plans regarding the basement will be sought. Discussion ensued regarding the building's basement, borough hall overcrowding, and other usable space.

Committee Reports

Fund Drive

Doug Doremus has merged a purchased mailing list with our donor list bringing the total to approximately 2,480 addresses. Roni has given him the fund drive letter to bring to the printer.

Fundraising

Janet Murnick held a committee meeting two days ago in preparation for the High Tea fundraiser on November 22. She thanked the valiant efforts of Nancy Verduin in planning it, and Caroline Browne and Madelyn English for publicity.

Programs

Shikha Mayer was not present.

Public Relations

Caroline Browne was not present.

Volunteer Recognition

Sarah Glazar would like volunteers for Monday, December 8 to make goody bags of cookies and candy for Library volunteers.

New Business

Elizabeth mentioned that Steve Forbes will be signing his most recent book at The Bookworm on Saturday, November 15. On Sunday, November 16, the two authors of the new *Gardens of the Garden State* coffee table book will be presenting at the Library at 2:00 p.m.

Debbie moved to adjourn, and Maria seconded. All were in favor, and the meeting ended 8:35 p.m.

Post Script: We learned after the meeting that John Bertoni was stuck in a fire drill at a client's office. He had attempted to provide the list of Proposed Officers and Committee Chairs to us. Roni distributed the list to board members for a vote via email on November 8. By November 10 she had received votes - all affirmative - from all but one board member. Below are the officers and committee chairs for 2015.

President - Roni Larini

Vice President - Nancy Verduin

Treasurer - Bob Baker

Recording Secretary - Elizabeth Faulkner

Corresponding Secretary - Maria Myers

Community Outreach - Debbie Heimerl

Finance - Doug Doremus

Fundraising - Janet George Murnick and Debbie Heimerl

Nominating - John Bertoni

Programs - Dan Lincoln and Shikha Mayer

Public Relations - Caroline Browne

Volunteer Recognition - Sarah Glazar

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Faulkner

Recording Secretary