

Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library, Inc.  
March 4, 2015 Meeting Minutes

The Friends Board meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Vice President Nancy Verduin. In attendance were Steve Autenrieth, Bob Baker, John Bertoni, Caroline Browne, Denis Dooley, Elizabeth Faulkner, Sarah Glazar, Dan Lincoln, Shikha Mayer, Maria Myers, Laurie Och, and Nancy Verduin. Not in attendance were Doug Doremus, Deborah Heimerl, Roni Larini, and Janet George Murnick. Also in attendance were April Judge, Terry Thompson, Patrice O'Regan Cummings, Leslie Brown Witt, and Maud Thiebaud.

Vice President's Remarks and Notifications

Nancy Verduin said Roni Larini seems to be doing well after her recent hip replacement surgery. She introduced Maud Thiebaud. She could not report on the Foundation meeting as it was cancelled yesterday due to the weather. She reminded everyone that the Homes of Distinction event is on April 12.

Approval of Minutes

Elizabeth Faulkner moved to accept the February meeting minutes and Dan Lincoln seconded. The motion passed with three abstentions (Caroline Browne, Sarah Glazar, and Shikha Mayer).

Correspondence

Maria Myers sent a get well card to Roni.

Treasurer's Report

Bob Baker said the matching gifts are starting to arrive, \$1K so far. The Friends gained \$4K on investments and he sold shares of donated stocks. We donated \$3,930 to the library. Bob shared the good news that we have surpassed the previous year's total. Since September, the Friends have raised \$40,500. Once the \$3,800 in additional matching gifts are received, we should reach nearly \$46K. Elizabeth made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Shikha seconded. It passed unanimously.

Library Director's Report

April Judge thanked Nancy and Bob for helping with the library building's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on Saturday, February 28. There were two big cakes (160 pieces) and lemonade served in the rotunda. The staff is getting ready for Maker Day on Saturday, March 21. Book sculptures will be included. (From BPL website: Bernardsville Library will be hosting its first Altered Book Contest as part of the statewide NJ Makers Day.) Plans for One Book Bernardsville in October are underway. The committee has selected the book *Lost Ravioli Recipes of Hoboken*, in conjunction with the Morristown Festival of Books One Community, One Book Committee.

Nancy said she will provide water and juice bottles for Maker Day. She, Dan and Sarah will provide baked goods.

Committee Reports

Community Outreach - Debbie Heimerl was not present.

Finance - Doug Doremus was not present.

Fundraising - Janet George Murnick was not present, but Elizabeth shared her updates. She has contacted three establishments as possible venues for a beer tasting event in the autumn: Jockey Hollow Kitchen, 90 Acres, and Pluckemin Inn. 90 Acres now has a "wine cellar" that can accommodate 40 guests. A minimum of \$4K for two hours of beer and hors d'oeuvres is a bit high. There will be follow-up communications. Pluckemin Inn can accommodate 45 people on its second floor. Management is interested in working within our budget.

Jockey Hollow Kitchen has not replied yet. Through her daughter's friend, an editor at St. Martin's Press, Janet is investigating the possibility of a luncheon with Kristin Hannah, author of *The Nightingale*. Regarding bingo, Nancy amended the form and will get it re-notarized. (Several board members signed and Denis Dooley notarized it after the meeting). May 29 is set for our first bingo evening, from 7-9. Supplies - card sets, daubers, bingo cage - will be purchased from an official vendor. Nancy distributed two sheets, one listing the games, and the second showing costs, items to purchase, and what the \$25 entry includes.

Nominating - John Bertoni reported that two people have expressed interest in joining the Friends: Maud Thiebaud and Karen Brodsky.

Program - Shikha Mayer said the February 22 swing band concert was enjoyable. She thanked board members for baked goods and help at the event. The next Sundays at Three date is May 3 when Motown music will be performed. Shikha is looking for a musical act for the seniors' breakfast on June 5.

Public Relations - Caroline Browne has gotten a price from Bernardsville Print Center for brochures. She made a motion to spend up to \$177.51 for 500 Friends brochures. John seconded. The motion passed unopposed.

Volunteer Recognition - Sarah Glazar's committee will meet on March 11 to discuss new ideas, such as having a volunteer appreciation week, perhaps tying in with the national week, May 18-22. Having a luncheon at the library on Monday is another idea.

#### Public Comments-Board of Trustees

Patrice Cummings said that instead of rescheduling the BoT's retreat, it has decided to extend three consecutive meetings to discuss: an updated strategic plan, Feb. 17; space repurposing, March 17; and the pluses and minuses of joining a consortium, April 21. Treasurer Mark Krook presented the Library's budget to the Borough Council in February. There were few questions. Terry Thompson said that at the March 9 Borough Council meeting, the BoT was asked what space it would like in the basement. The BoT is creating its wish list. Leslie Brown Witt said the Foundation's meeting has been rescheduled for next week. Its invitations for the Homes of Distinction event were sent on Monday. Its appeal letter will be sent after the event. The board wants major donor giving to be a big thrust this year in order to build its endowment.

#### Old Business

Nancy Verduin said children's librarian Tammy Lee is considering changes to the youth service awards for 4<sup>th</sup> grade on up. Specific amounts will be set for certain levels of volunteering.

John moved to end the meeting and Dan seconded. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Faulkner  
Recording Secretary