

Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library, Inc.
July 2, 2014 Meeting Minutes

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

Approval of Minutes

With the correction of one typo (adjournment time), Dan Lincoln moved to accept the June 4, 2014 meeting minutes. Sarah Glazar seconded, and the board approved them.

President's Remarks and Notifications

Roni Larini introduced Leslie Brown Witt, who became the Foundation president this year, and thanked the Foundation for the \$30K it has donated to the Library so far this year. The Seniors' breakfast and program on June 6 was successful, with 66 attendees. Roni thanked Shikha Mayer and Dorothy Carter for organizing the event. The Friends portion of the Library website requires some updating. April Judge suggested working with Madelyn English. Roni reported that the gambling license application is very complicated. It requires the signatures of the officers and the addresses and birth dates of all board members. Madelyn ordered 2,000 Library tote bags costing \$2,448. Discussion ensued about how much to pay and from which line item. Roni moved that the Friends pay the entire cost. Nancy Verduin seconded, and the motion passed unopposed.

Vice President's Report

Megan Hartley was not present. Instead Leslie spoke about the Foundation's successful Homes of Distinction event in March and its appeal letter sent in May, including a \$25K match. The Foundation board is redefining its major donor campaign, and will host small, intimate dinners for \$10K+ donors in the second half of the year. She also thanked the Friends for the Volunteer Luncheon.

Correspondence

Nancy Verduin read aloud a thank you note from Art and Myrtle Martin for the Seniors' Day breakfast.

Treasurer's Report

Bob Baker distributed summaries dated June 10. His recent activities included ordering new checks (250) expected to last seven years; paying for the post office box (\$100); filing the NJ charitable registration form (\$60); working on the IRS long-form, 990-EZ, due August 15; and preparing the 2013 audit now in draft. He reported that we have not had many credit card donations and the stock market is okay. Doug Doremus moved, and Dan seconded, to accept the financial reports. The board voted unanimously in favor.

Library Report

April Judge reported that 242 children have signed up for the summer reading program. There is a Lunch Bunch group for grades 2-4. Bill Bryson's *A Walk in the Woods* has been selected for One

Book Bernardsville in October. There will be several thematic programs scheduled throughout that month. Maker Day is set for Saturday, September 20, 11-4, with 5 artisans already signed up. April had two funding requests. The first was for \$300 to renew the *Dear Reader* online book club subscription. Janet moved and Debbie Heimerl seconded. All voted in favor. The second request was for \$7,734 to replace three aging children's computers with new flat screen models preloaded with learning games serving 2-5 year olds. Discussion followed. There is only one source for this model; it is a capital upgrade so funds can come from the Blumenschine monies. Janet Murnick moved to approve spending \$7,734 on these three computers; Nancy seconded. Twelve board members voted in favor, and one member opposed.

Committee Reports

Finance - Doug Doremus suggested the tote bags come from the Other Fundraising line item. So far this year, the Friends are below budget on expenses.

Fundraising - Janet George Murnick. The committee has met to discuss the autumn's fundraising events. For the author luncheon on September 30, Janet is hoping for 100 attendees. Ilene Beckerman will bring copies of her book, *Love, Loss and What I Wore*, to sell. Despite much research, a beer tasting event in October has not panned out. The tea is set for November 22. So far, Steve Autenrieth's work contacting tea companies in the tri-state area has not yielded a speaker. The gaming license for bingo is in the works. Nancy will approach Chubb for printing flyers and a few posters for the author luncheon.

Nominating - John Bertoni had nothing to report at this time.

Program - Shikha Mayer was not present.

Public Relations - Caroline Browne was not present.

Volunteer Recognition - Sarah Glazar had nothing to report at this time.

Public Comments

Patrice Cummings reported that Mayor Honecker has selected Michael dePoortere as his appointee to the BoT. Saturday, September 6 is the official opening of the Parsons Patio.

Roni added that the Bernardsville Garden Club donated money for the plantings from the patio to the end of the Library building.

Old Business

Roni said the By-Laws will be reviewed in the autumn with regard to the Student Awards and the new position.

New Business

Leslie notified that the Foundation's August meeting has been cancelled.

John moved and Dan seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting ended at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Faulkner
Recording Secretary