

## **Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library Board of Directors**

January 6, 2021 Minutes

**Attendance:** Jamie Bertoni, Jerry Clark, Lori Pakrul, Bob Baker, Gladis daSilva Menare, Jose Borbolla Escoboza, Steve Autenrieth, Nancy Goguen, Nancy Verduin, Shura Arnold, Terry Thompson  
**Absent:** Deb Heimerl, Dan Lincoln, Pat Carroll, Gerry Clark, Victoria Olivera

### **President Remarks-** Nancy Verduin

- Welcomed Jay and Lennie Ambelang as new board members.
- Jay & Lennie were voted on and approved
- Let Nancy know if you want to change committees. Openings include:
  - Finance Co-Chair
  - Nominating Co-Chair
  - Vice President
  - Campaign Letter Volunteers
- Lenny and Jay volunteered to be recording secretary to replace Amy.
- The library was contacted by a man with a vintage camera collection he might want to donate to the library. Shura asked the Friends to follow up since the library is not in a position to accept such an item. Jay volunteered to contact the individual to get more information about the collection and the individuals intentions.
- Nancy asked for a volunteer to attend the monthly Foundation meetings. Jose volunteered. Foundation meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30.
- Lori suggested sending a "Welcome to Bernardsville" letter to anyone new who moves into town. Lori will ask Debbie if she wants to help with a template letter that could be run monthly or quarterly with the names of new residents.

### **Vice Presidents Remarks-** none

### **Recording Secretary-** Amy has moved to Board of Trustees

- Jamie volunteered to take tonight's minutes
- December minutes were approved

### **Correspondence-** Nancy G

- No additional comments

### **Treasurer's Report-** Bob presented year end results

- Total assets are greater than \$500k
- December we received \$16k in donations
- Campaign
  - A total of \$27,745 was received since September from approximately 157 donors, 27 of whom were new donors vs 20 new donors the prior year
  - On target to exceed last year's campaign
  - Only 3 or 4 mailings came back undeliverable

- Debbie will be completing the letters to donors in the coming weeks
- Expenses
  - Gave library \$4400 in December and a total of \$29k for 2020 vs \$52k budgeted

**Library update:** Shura

- The library staff is busy making the conversion to MAIN (Morris Automated Information Network).
- The conversion will take place from 1/7 till 1/11.
- There will be cost savings to the library and access to more material for patrons.
- Library employees are helping get the library ready for the conversion. The circulation staff is being trained on the new system.
- The newsletter has been reformatted to a smaller size and will be published quarterly instead of 6 times a year.

**Review by Committee Chairs**

**Finance** – Gerry was absent

**Fundraising-** Debbie was absent

- Fundraising on hold for now

**Nominating-** Nancy G.

- Nancy G speaking with a few potential members and will follow up

**Public Relations-** Gladis & Jose

- Publicized campaign letter on social media in December
- Gladis prepared a 2021 calendar for all holidays to celebrate and mention on social media
- Will hold a committee meeting to plan to promote upcoming newsletter
- Will also promote tutor.com to local families especially spanish language learners

**Programs-** Dan was absent

- Movies and other in person programs on hold for now
- Discussion about a possible drive up concert in May

**Volunteer Recognition-** Lori

- Provided goody bags to the staff in mid December
- Discussed buying lunch for the staff since we did not have our volunteer and staff luncheon in 2020 and are unsure of when we can do it in 2021
- Could possibly send staff flowers and maybe cookies if lunch does not work

**Board of Trustees-** Terry Thompson gave the report – Amy DeMilt has joined the Board of Trustees and will become Board Secretary. Patrice Cummings will be leaving the Board of Trustees. Christine Zamorra will be the Mayors representative on The Board of Trustees.

**Foundation-** Leslie was unable to attend. Comments provided in advance included:

The foundation non-event event raised more money than last years event.

The breakdown was: \$6000 auction

\$2000 50/50

\$7000 ticket sales

\$1800 donations

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting 2/3/21 at 7:00 PM