

Friends of the Marcellus Free Library, Inc.

Board Meeting Minutes – June 26, 2019

Board Members Present: President Audrey Kearney, Vice President Michele Merwarth, Treasurer Linda Garner, Corresponding Secretary Paulette Quinn, Past President Barb Crawford, Director Vicki Finkle, Director Sharon Dudley

Board Members Absent: Recording Secretary Nancy Scanlon

Others in Attendance: Advisory Council Members. See attached sheet.

Program: Year-in-Review, Election of new officers, Year-End Luncheon

President Kearney called the meeting to order at 11:37 AM and thanked those that brought food for today's luncheon.

Secretary's Report: In the absence of Nancy Scanlon, Michele Merwarth read the secretary's report for May 22, 2019. Minutes were accepted with one correction.

Treasurer's Report: Linda Garner gave the treasurer's report. Report stands as read.

Business:

Dottie Levy thanked all the helpers for the Olde Home Days Book Sale. She has been keeping information on weather and time slots filled for the sale.

Paulette Quinn reported on the "Keep it Growing! Strengthening Your Friends of the Library Group" NYLA workshop she attended with Cynthia Olmstead in Dewitt. Although we are doing well with membership numbers, there are some things that we could be doing better. President Kearney reported that besides board members, these workshops can also be attended by Friends members.

The "United for Libraries" newsletter is due for renewal. This is a division of the American Library Association. Because we have over 100 members, the price is \$80 annually. Discussion about the benefits of the information provided were discussed. Motion was made, seconded, and voted on to continue receiving this newsletter. Motion carried.

Committees for next year were established:

Book Nook – Dottie Levy

Book Sale – Dottie Levy

Basket Raffle – Barb Crawford

Hospitality – Vicki Finkle

FaceBook – Michele Merwarth

Advocacy – Diane Hausch

Sunshine – Audrey Kearney

After breaking for our luncheon at 11:50, provided by the library staff and Friends, the meeting reconvened at 12:40.

Paulette Quinn reported on membership. At the end of this year, membership stands at 169 members. Despite some non-renewals, twenty-one new memberships were added this year. Forty-seven members chose to renew as "Good Friend" (\$25) or "Best Friend" (\$50) instead of "Friend" (\$10). Thirty-two members joined after April 1, so their membership continues into 2019/20. For comparison, membership in 2008/09, the year we moved into the new library, stood at forty members. Paulette's recommendation for the following year is to develop two membership letters - one for new members, and one for renewing members. Also, to add FaceBook and email information on the program, and consider providing membership card with some use/value to members.

Paulette Quinn also reported on the Book Nook/Book Sales. She reported that forty-four members had helped in some way with the Book Nook/Book Sales this year. New lawn signs were purchased prior to the Olde Home Days Book Sale. The price of adult hardcover books was raised from \$1 to \$2 and puzzle prices increased to \$1. While Book Sale totals have increased, Book Nook and lobby sales have decreased. Paulette's recommendation for the following year is to publicize the Book Nook and upcycle books into items that can sell for a higher price.

Michele Merwarth reported on advocacy. She oversaw the monthly distribution of the library's monthly newsletter to businesses/churches in the community, made name tags for officers and directors, and arranged for the purchase of six green aprons for Friends to use at book sales and other events to promote the visibility of Friends in the library. In February, a Friends dedicated email and FaceBook page (55 followers at this time) were created to help with advocacy efforts. Advocacy efforts included National Friends of Library Week in October, Library Lovers Month and Library Advocacy Day in February, and National Library Week and the Library Proposition on School Budget ballot in May. A rocking chair was purchased for the library in March to commemorate the long service of Jane Amidon to the Friends.

President Kearney handed out certificates to Friends for their commitment of time and talent to the Friends this year.

The slate of officers for the 2019/20 year were presented. Michele Merwarth - President, Diane Hausch - Vice-President, Nancy Scanlon - Recording Secretary, Cynthia Olmstead - Corresponding Secretary, Susan Spencer - Treasurer, Audrey Kearney - Past President, Vicki Finkle - Director, and Gloria Weeks - Director. Motion was made, seconded, and voted on. Motion carried.

With the change in officers for the 2019-20 year, Linda Garner and Audrey Kearney will be removed from the list of signors at M & T Bank and will be replaced by Michele Merwarth and Susan Spencer.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Michele Merwarth, in the absence of Nancy Scanlon.