



Friends of Marcellus Free Library Meeting – 1:00 pm Friends Community Room – November 20, 2024

President Jackie Smith called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Welcome:

President Jackie Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked people to sign in and report any volunteer hours.

Open position, Recording Secretary: Deb Fratter offered to share the position with another member as she travels often.

Attendance:

Present: Jackie Smith, President; Domenick Patti, Vice President; Jim Shake, Treasurer; Michele Merwarth, Recording Secretary; Karen Pollard, Director; Donna Merchant, Deputy Treasurer; Recording Secretary, vacant (Anne Hatcher filling in)

Absent: Audrey Kearney, Director

Total Attendance: 20

Reports:

Secretary: Vice President Domenick Patti made a motion that the October minutes be accepted as read and Michele Merwarth seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Shake presented the report for October through November 20, 2024, including bank balances, book sale final numbers and annual filing (11/12/24). The statement will be filed as read. He presented the revised projections for the year and how they compared historically.

Membership: Michele Merwarth reported that there are now 162 members. 14 new members joined during Friends of the Library Week. Membership is down.

Advocacy: Domenick Patti gave the advocacy report. He spoke with Sue Serens, Marcellus School District National Honor Society director, about building a program of student volunteers at the library. Sophia approved kids who are good at following instructions volunteering at the library.

Board of Trustees: Jackie Smith reported that the Board of Trustees welcomed Brigid Farrell, the new Assistant Director of the library. There is a new program, Parents Place, and a system upgrade. The holiday open house will be December 6, 2024 and looking for volunteers. Library traffic is up 8.5% and circulation is up, as well. Continue to source a vendor for the memory bricks. Friends donated \$3,500 last year and it will be used to either reupholster chairs or buy new chairs.

Book Nook: Dottie Levy thanked Barb for help with book sale donations. The Book Nook is open, but not accepting donations. Books in gift giving condition will be set up 11/25/24 for sale until gone or 1/2/25. Leftover books donated to Dave Larson (Loretto), Marie Rothbaler (West Genesee, little free libraries) and religious books were sold. Thank you note to be sent to Home Depot for bag donations.

Sunshine: Audrey Kearney no report, absent.

Facebook: Anne Hatcher reported that Facebook followers are up from 185 to 225 followers; aiming for more engagement posts each month; four events posted last month; Roz Napier recognized as Special Friend of the library.

Historian: Paulette Quinn filed photos of Michele Merwath as presenter at NYLA conference; Eagle News Article recognizing Paulette Quinn receiving the Daniel W. Casey award and Roz Napier receiving the Special Friend of the Library award..

New Business:

The library has submitted a fund request of \$250 for refreshments at the holiday open house on December 6, 2024. Domenick Patti made a motion that the fund request be accepted and Karen Pollard seconded the motion. Motion was accepted.

Jackie Smith to check with Sophia Brandt about liability and compliance when it comes to Christmas lights.

Roz Napier was awarded Special Friend of the Library.

Michele Merwarth and Jackie Smith attended the annual NYLA conference at the On Center where Michele sat on a panel and discussed fundraising for Friends of the Library.

December 2, 2024 - decorate library and reorganize and weed out store room

December 6, 2024 - MFL Holiday Open House

December 13, 2024 - CLRC Legislative Breakfast

January 6, 2025 - pack away decorations

Next meeting January 15, 1pm Friends Community Room with guest speaker Jo McNally, romance novelist and Friends Soup Social.

After Adjournment, Friends to make ornaments for fundraiser.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:58 PM.