



Friends of Marcellus Free Library Meeting – 1:00 PM Friends Community Room – March 19, 2025

President Jackie Smith called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM.

Attendance:

- **Present:** Jackie Smith, President; Domenick Patti, Vice President; Jim Shake, Treasurer; Donna Merchant, Deputy Treasurer; Anne Hatcher, Recording Secretary; Audrey Kearney, Director; Karen Pollard, Director
- **Absent:** Michele Merwarth, Corresponding Secretary
- **Attendance:** 17

Program:

- President Jackie Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked attendants to sign in and report any volunteer hours.
- Jackie Smith requested board members review their job descriptions in the policy and procedure binders to determine what is relevant/irrelevant and update for incoming board members.
- Book Bingo to be played after business meeting is adjourned.

Reports:

- **Treasurer's Report:** Jim Shake presented the financial reports for February through March 19, 2025, including bank balances, budget estimates and membership dues. NYS sales taxes were filed on March 12, 2025 (\$51.94). The statement will be filed as read.
- **Membership:** Jackie Smith reported that there are now 174 members. Membership is down, but donations are up.
- **Advocacy:** Domenick Patti gave the advocacy report. In collaboration with the Honor Society programs at Marcellus Driver Middle School and High School, Domenick has arranged a volunteer program to help with tasks in the library. We have 6 middle school volunteers and 1 high school volunteer. A teen advisory board has been formed (2 volunteers). They will share ideas about events they could have and Teen Programming. Domenick spoke about sending pre-prepared letters to legislators based on the ALA notice of the \$10M budget cut for NY libraries. He also shared that pre-prepared letters are available from NYLA on fighting President Trump's order to cancel IMLS. Domenick will send a letter to legislators on behalf of The Friends of Marcellus Free Library. It was requested that Anne Hatcher share the links to the pre-prepared letters on Facebook for followers.
- **Board of Trustees:** Domenick Patti attended the Board of Trustees meeting. There will be a ball/gala fundraiser on October 12, 2025, the theme has not yet been decided. The library is adding 10-100 piece puzzles for adults with cognitive impairments. Construction projects are planned for 2025 including, exterior fascia repair, replacement and painting, window repairs, installation of outdoor chess tables and benches, installation of musical park instruments, shade solution for the amphitheater and repairs on the memorial bricks. The library has funds for these projects between donations and grants.
- **Book Nook:** Barb Crawford reported that donations are rolling in and they are all caught up on sorting at this time. The Book Nook received some vintage books that GERALYN HUBA will price. Requested for Anne Hatcher to post a request on Facebook for fiction book donations.

- Sunshine: Audrey Kearney reported that a sympathy card was sent to Jean Forster after the passing of her mother.
- Facebook: Anne Hatcher reported that Facebook followers are up from 230 to 237 followers; posts were made for library events, basket raffle donations, March holidays, ALA-President Trump's order to cancel IMLS. The Facebook page has had increased engagement with followers.
- Historian: Paulette Quinn had no report for this month.

New Business:

- The library has submitted a fund request of \$600 for Book Page Magazine (\$420 subscription) and children's puzzles (\$180). [REDACTED] made a motion that the fund request be accepted and [REDACTED] seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
- The funds given to the library to replace or reupholster chairs has been redirected to purchase nesting display tables and a children's STEM white board.
- Jackie Smith researched and found floating utility shelves for the storage room (2 shelves, 6'x2') and S hooks. At the time of this meeting the shelves are on sale for \$129.99 plus tax. [REDACTED] made a motion to purchase the items (not to exceed \$200) and [REDACTED] seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Jackie Smith will order 2 rolls of raffle tickets for the basket raffle at \$10.79 for 2,000 tickets. This is a maintenance order.
- Jackie Smith requested that we donate \$100 to be a Silver Sponsor for the Old Home Days. [REDACTED] made a motion to donate the money and [REDACTED] seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Jackie Smith spoke about the upcoming National Library Week (4/6-4/12) and Library Workers Day (4/8). The Friends normally donates flowers for the circulation desk, but would like to do an ice cream social for staff this year. Jackie to check with Sophia Brandt on the date of their April staff meeting and if they would like ice cream or pastries depending on the time of the meeting.
- Jackie Smith stated that the library is seeking volunteers for the Easter Egg Hunt on April 16, 2025.
- Betsy Shake spoke about the upcoming Basket Raffle. They would like to solicit donations from more restaurants. The committee needs raffle tickets (being ordered by Jackie Smith), cellophane wrap and to redecorate the ticket boxes.
- Jackie Smith requested that board members look at their job descriptions to see what is relevant/irrelevant and get them updated for incoming board members.
- Next meeting April 16, 1pm Friends Community Room. Pizza will be provided.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:13 PM.

Anne M. Hatcher