



Friends of Marcellus Free Library Meeting

Friends of the Library Community Room - February 22, 2024

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

Welcome: Jackie reminded everyone to sign in.

Program: John Curtin was the guest speaker. The past Marcellus mayor presented a slide show and talked about the history of the library from its beginnings in 1914 to present day. He also spoke about historical Marcellus information that is available in the library's history section, including census information, city directories, and local civil records from the *Press-Observer*. He gave Jackie a hard copy of his presentation and supporting documents that will be given to Sophia for the local history section. It was a wonderful presentation with lots of information. (1:05 - 1:35 pm)

Attendance:

Present: Jackie Smith, President; Domenick Patti, Vice President; Michele Merwarth, Corresponding Secretary; Jim Shake, Treasurer; Audrey Kearney, Director; Karen Pollard, Director

Absent: Debbie Grousset, Deputy Treasurer; Diana Osborne, Recording Secretary

Total Attendance: 21

Meeting reconvened at 1:45 pm

Reports:

Secretary: The January 2024 minutes were previously distributed to board members. Motion was made, seconded, voted on and passed. Minutes will be sent to the library for posting on the FMFL page.

Treasurer: Jim presented the financial reports for January 2024 & current income & expenses through 2/20/24.. Each director received the reports. Due to a discrepancy in a line item, Jim will recheck his calculations and present the updated figures next month.

Membership: Michele reported that we have 179 members, an addition of 2 new members since last month.

Advocacy: Domenick met with Sophia and presented information about the NYLA recommended SLI - Sustainable Library Initiative, a plan for libraries, central to their communities, to be available to be of aid in an emergency. He also reported that the distribution of the library's newsletter throughout Marcellus has been going very well with an average distribution of about 95%. Domenick invited members to a National Friends of the Library Week webinar that NYLA will host on February 28th.

Board of Trustees: Jackie passed out 2024 trustee information, including one new board member. The 2023 Annual Report was presented and made available in the lobby. The 2024 budget includes funding for a children's

librarian. Spring will see a new table and benches for the gazebo and the installation of more memorial bricks in the walkway. Next meeting 3/7.

Book Nook: No report

Sunshine: Audrey sent a get well card to Domenick Patti and sympathy cards to the family of Kathryn Kerr and Kathryn Rehrig.

Facebook: Michele reported followers are at 170, up 3 from last month. Jackie has contacted Mary Ellen Popyk, who will be in contact after she returns from Florida in April.

Historian: Paulette Quinn reported that the Marcellus Study Club, mentioned by John Curtin and in existence since the library's beginnings, is still active. They meet twice a month at the Welcome Center of Marcellus Park.

Business:

Funds Request: Sophia Brandt, library director, has requested funds of \$5,000 for 2 iPad stations for the children's area, 1 iPad with case for the office and Friends use, and reference desk set up in the children's area. After discussion, a motion was made, seconded, voted on and passed.

2022-23 Financial Review: Jackie presented her review of the 2022-2023 financial report. She has made clarifications to the "Financial Review Checklist" form in the Policy & Procedure Guidebook. Motion was made to accept the revised form, seconded, and passed. Board members should update their Guidebook with the new form passed out at the meeting.

Book Page Bouquet: Paulette will prepare & provide materials for a Book Page Bouquet Make & Take Craft for our March meeting. Friends member Joyce Doig will assist her with the preparations. A request for email for attendees to ensure enough materials will be published in the library newsletter, News & Notes, and on FaceBook.

Memorial Book Donation: Audrey volunteered to contact Alyson Kerr Esposito for a recommendation of 2 books to purchase in memory of long time Friends member, Kay Kerr.

Basket Raffle Preparation: Olde Home Days will be May 31, June 1, & June 2nd. Since there is not a committee chair, it was recommended that a volunteer subcommittee be formed and get together with Jackie prior to our next meeting to go over responsibilities and assign tasks.

Adjournment: With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:52 pm..

Next meeting: March 28, 2024 at 1 pm

Program: Make and Take Book Page Bouquet

Submitted by Michele Merwarth, in the absence of Diana Osborne.