



Friends of Marcellus Free Library Meeting - 1 PM

Friends of the Library Community Room - October 26, 2023

President Jackie Smith called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm

Welcome:

Jackie reminded everyone to sign in & record their volunteer hours. National Friends of Library Week was added to the agenda. With the absence of Recording Secretary, Michele Merwarth agreed to take the minutes. Due to illness, our planned speaker, Ann Ferro was unable to attend. It is hoped to have her come later in the year.

Attendance:

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

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

Total Attendance: 8

Reports:

Secretary: The September 2023 minutes were previously distributed to board members. Motion was made, seconded, and passed. Minutes will be sent to the library for posting on the FMFL page.

Treasurer: Jim presented the final financial report for September 2023, the report through 10/24/23, and the projected Book Sale proceeds. The use of Zettle payments at the Book Sale were approximately 25% of sales, an increase over June's Book Sale. Each director received the statements. The reports will be filed as read.

Membership: Because of the success of the membership drive for National Friends of Libraries Week and the Friday night entrance to the Book Sale, membership currently stands at 163 members. 25 members were added during NFLW and 10 during the Book Sale. Michele reported that we currently have 23 couples enrolled as members.

Advocacy: Domenick attended a Zoom presentation on SLI - Sustainable Libraries Initiative, sponsored by NYLA. This initiative's purpose is to help with climate change & the library's responsibility to the community. He will attend a second session on 11/8. He will speak to Sophia on this topic.

Board of Trustees: Jackie distributed Sophia's Director's Report to the Trustees to Friends Board members and will continue to do so for future meetings. The library is requesting 8 Friends volunteers to assist with their annual Holiday Open House on December 1st from 6 - 8 pm. A sign-up sheet was available. Next Trustees meeting will be on November 9th at 6:45 pm.

Holiday Open House: In addition to volunteers, the Friends will again provide children's books, as well as candy canes and possibly bookmarks.

Book Nook/Book Sale: Dottie reported that the Book Nook will be closed throughout the week to take care of the leftover books from the Book Sale. \$5 Bag Sale continues in the library this week. Book Scouter is used to scan books that may have value & they have not received any funding from Better World Books, where prior leftover books were sent. Despite a few initial challenges, the Book Sale was successful. Having an extra person/"runner" on Friday night would be helpful as it is the busiest time of the sale. Paulette Quinn asked that the original Pay Pal account for the Friends be closed as it is in her name.

Sunshine: Audrey sent a card to Susan Spencer whose son passed away.

FaceBook: Michele reported on 167 members and continuing to post as needed while Mary Ellen Popyk transitions into the role.

Historian: Paulette Quinn reported on the growth of the Friends membership. 33 members in 2006 to 163 members in 2023.

Business:

Financial Review: Because of the difficulties of securing a Friends member to do the review, a motion was made, seconded, and passed to give another 30 day extension. Friends member Amy Sandgarten will be conducting the review, due by our next meeting.

2020 IRS 990: Because of an oversight, the form was not submitted. Jim submitted the missing year's submittal for a processing fee. Going forward, this item will be included in the checklist for the annual financial review.

Special Friends of the Library Award: Because the nominee was out of town during National Friends of the Library Week, Jackie is unavailable so Audrey will present the award tomorrow.

National Friends of Library Week: Michele reported that the membership drive in the lobby was a successful venture. Not only did we get 25 new members and hand out FMFL pens, we were able to connect with both current Friends members & library patrons. She recommends continuing this for next year.

Swag: Michele showed a calendar/post it note set for the Friends to use for giveaways/promotions. Jackie will add this to January's agenda.

Next meeting: November 30th at **9:30 am** to decorate the library for the holidays. We will have a light lunch following the decorating. Members with last names beginning with A - L are encouraged to bring appetizers; those last names beginning with M - Z are encouraged to bring desserts.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 pm.

Submitted by

Michele Merwarth (for Diana Osborne)