

Friends of Boyden Library
Minutes of January Meeting
January 3, 2024

Present: Betsy Buckland, Sue Collins, Sara Halton, Bernadette Thie, Don Jenkins, Colleen McManus, Margi Rossetti, Lesleyann Foster, Katherine Howard, Charles DiPompo, Director Libby O’Neill, Youth Services Librarian Emma Brelsford, Trustee Jen Ooi. Janice Rosado – virtually present

Betsy Buckland called the meeting to order.

Approval of November 1, 2023 Minutes: Sue Collins

Margi made a motion to accept the Minutes; seconded by Bernadette. Motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report: Sara Halton

Income:

- Book Sale had a great year

Expenses:

- Envelopes & Brochures
- Emma & Jennifir are making sure they spend their allotted money on programming & other expenses

Charles made a motion to accept the November, December & Year End Reports, second by Colleen. Motion passed.

Director’s Report: Libby O’Neill

- Getting 3 soundproof study pods in January for quiet space & zoom calls. Trustees will draft a policy for use
- Floral program was a huge success

Many adult programs ahead, all are booked up! Some of the programs include: Spice Club, Art workshop with Lidia Mikhaylova, Yoga with the YMCA - at Boyden. Dry January and the History of the Temperance Movement (virtual program), Develop the Habits for Staying Organized with Susan McCarthy

- On March 27, Brendan Slocumb has agreed to be our Community READS Author.

Janice made a motion to loan library \$5,000 to pay the author if needed, second by Katherine. Motion passed.

Libby asked for money for promotional materials for the Community READS program. It should only cost \$150 so we will happily do that. Details to follow.

Janice would like Friends to sponsor a program. Libby agreed.

Report from Teen Librarian: Jennifir Huston was not able to attend. **Libby** gave Report.

- Thank you for all the Friends do for the Teens of Boyden.

Friends paid for wrapping station Makerspace.

January will be the start of Snackable Chats & Delicious Drinks led by Teens, suggested by Teen Advisory Board. Some of the most popular programs sponsored by Friends were: Escape Room, Sun and Moon Shadow Boxes, Paint an Axoloti, Design Your Own Masks take and make for school visits and Makerspace.

Jennifir is now doing a monthly Crafty Teens Program: January-Sock Snowman, February-Waving Lucky Cat for Chinese New Year, March Rope Bowls & April-Fairy Books for Earth Day. She hopes most of these will be sponsored by the Friends.

Report from Youth Services Librarian: Emma Brelsford

- Thank you for all the Friends did to sponsor programs
- Robert Revist did a Winter Wonderland Comic Mime program for 50 people.
- Emma spent Friends funds for art supplies, writing group materials, summer programming, croc charms for summer reading prizes, sensory friendly materials, wooden puzzles and more.
- Having 2 Little Librarians a month! They will curate their own book display featured in the Children's Room for 1 week each month. It is a way to recommend books they love to others & have their time in the spotlight!
- Promoting sending in a portrait of someone you love for Valentine's Day. Karen Duggan is responsible for creating Who Do You Love Program and bookmarks.
- Baby Sign Language group continues
- February Vacation programming should be popular.

Trustee Report: Jen Ooi

- Trustees received a generous donation from Rotary Club for Chrome Books
- Submitted a preliminary budget to the Advisory Board with a request for an increase for materials expenditures and a full time Teen Librarian
- Town diorama needs a home
- Speakers will be installed throughout the building for emergency or any public announcements
- Public Health Nurse will tour the library and demonstrate use of AEDs
- Friends to attend Trustee meetings: Katherine 1/9; Betsy 2/13; Sue 3/12; Janice 4/9

Membership: Don Jenkins

- This is Don's last meeting! Betsy thanked him for all the work he has done for us & presented him with a little gift. Don said it was an honor to be a part of this wonderful organization. When he retired, he wanted to join several organizations he never had time for, but he doesn't want to be overextended.
- Don stated this year we got memberships at events: a handful of people at our Fall Social & several joined at the Book Sale
- So far this year: 39 (44 Individual) memberships, 27 are first time members!
- Want to make sure the new Membership brochures & envelopes are at Circ Desk
- Website needs to be updated; Kathy Bell-Harney can do that

Newsletter: Bernadette Thie

- Thanked everyone for submitting articles to January Newsletter
- For Lifetime members, if they haven't paid annual dues in a while, insert a reminder in their mailed copy of the January Newsletter. It was also decided that we will mail out copies of the January newsletter to any former members who had paid their dues within the last 3 years (a change from our previous 5-year time limit). If after 3 years, they do not renew their membership dues, we'll take them off the newsletter mailing list. Sara will pass out the current list & people can revise list for people who have moved or are deceased.
- Betsy will proofread the Newsletter before it goes out

Nominating Committee Preliminary Report: Bernadette Thie

- Slate was sent out. -Executive Board & Chair Positions are continuing on for another year.
- Colleen McManus has graciously agreed to be Membership Chair!

- We could have 15 members, now have 11. Betsy urged everyone to think of who they know that might be a good fit for the Board: promote we only have 9 monthly meetings for a 1-year commitment.
- Margi agreed to send a board recruitment letter to her current sorters and volunteers.

Media/PR: Jen Linskey was not able to attend

- Janice will verify Jen gets out publicity for Annual Meeting

Book Shop: Margi Rossetti

- During the building inspection by the Town, they cited library cluttering the back hall with Discover Books boxes. Need to find a spot for the boxes for Discover Books, perhaps put boxes in Community Room temporarily
- Larger boxes that have our tote bags & grocery bags were moved to storage room
- Price changes: Books dated 2024-\$5; 2023 books-\$3, older books-\$2 for hardcovers
- Discover Books contract has been signed, therefore we'll receive \$.02/ lb. Their trucks will go to people's homes to pick up, with a minimum of 10 boxes
- The large donation from contractor didn't work out because of time limits. Walpole said they were older books & recycled most of them.

Book Sale/Donation Days: Lesleyann Foster

- Terrific Book Sale! Thanks to everyone who helped make it a success.
- Date for Spring Book Sale – May (Setup 8), 9, 10, 11
- Dates for Fall Book Sale - November (Setup 13), 14, 15, 16
- Book Drives – March 16 & April 13 & possibly 4/27
- Lesleyann will print a book mark with Book Drive & Book Sale dates for Spring

As a thank you, we will invite Staff, Book Sorters & Book Sale Volunteers to shop on Wed afternoon (probably 4-6pm).

Old Business:

- **Giving Tree: Colleen McManus**
Went very well - Community very supportive! 70 gifts, plus there was a multitude of books

New Business:

Coordinate Annual Meeting Announcement (Reporter/Social Media) – Janice will contact Jen Linsky to publicize our Annual Meeting on February 7

Betsy will tell Kathy Bell-Harney to put an article in the Reporter

Adjourn: Colleen made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Bernadette . Motion passed.

Next meeting: Febuary 7, 2024

Meeting at 7:00 pm in Community Meeting Room

Respectfully submitted: Sue Collins