

Friends of Boyden Library
Minutes of March Meeting
March 6, 2024

Present: Betsy Buckland, Sue Collins, Sara Halton, Bernadette Thie, Colleen McManus, Lesleyann Foster, Margi Rosetti, Katherine Howard, Charles DiPompo, Betsy Lorusso, Maureen Ryan, Director Libby O'Neill, Youth Services Librarian Emma Brelsford, Teen Librarian Jennifir Huston
Trustee Joyce Parlapiano
Virtually present: Janice Rosado

Betsy Buckland called the meeting to order. Introduction of new Board Member, Maureen Ryan.

Approval of February 7, 2024 Minutes: Sue Collins

Sara amended two figures in the Proposed Budget. The Teen Budget will increase to a total of \$350. The Youth expenses will be increased by \$500.

Sara made a motion to accept the Amended Minutes; seconded by Lesleyann. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Sara Halton

- Good month for memberships, more coming in
- Book Shop doing well
- Zoo Passes & 2 Teen programs paid for
- Lesleyann had a question if price of the Southwick Zoo will stay at \$20. Janice stated that it will. Patrons can pay for Southwick Zoo tickets with PayPal & Venmo, using QR Code. The Board understands a small fee involved will be absorbed by the Friends.

Bernadette made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, second by Katherine. Motion passed.

Director's Report: Libby O'Neill

- In full swing for 2024 Community Reads Program. Thanked Friends for the flyers. Kickoff event was Monday evening with a String Quartet
- Murder Mystery Program for adults & teens is Thursday, 3/7
- Open Mic Night is scheduled for 3/18 so people can showcase their talents. No one registered as of yet but the public has until 3/11 to sign up!
- Thanked Friend working at Author Talk to sell books. Almost halfway full with registrations
- Seed Program in its second year is going well

Upcoming programs paid by Friends: Jewelry Making by Juri Love, Gardening Workshop & the Mixed Media Art Workshop is very popular. Also, the Bolly-X Bollywood Dance Workshop on the Common coming up in May.

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Report from Teen Librarian: Jennifir Huston

- Lots of teens come to the Teen Room. Teens have stepped up to be leaders to watch others behavior
- Friends sponsored: teen led program making bracelets, Crafty Teens: Lucky Cat program, Rope Bowls and Fairy Books made from recycled books.
- Have lots of volunteers; have a Wait List, so having some teens write articles for our Teen Newsletter
- As part of Community Reads, there is the Murder Mystery program for 13+, book club discussing the *Violin Conspiracy*. Hopefully teachers & students will attend Slocumb event.
- Advisory Board renamed Snackable Chats & Delicious Sips met twice

- Human Library is being formed. Making Librarian shirts on Cricut for Librarian event that includes Jennifir, Libby, Betsy & Margi. Looking for someone to represent Republican viewpoint.

Report from Youth Services Librarian: Emma Brelsford

- Kids' Yoga class is becoming more popular
- Programs funded by Friends: Talewise Science Heroes-Adventure of the Lost Treasures, Teddy Bear Picnic will be July 10, 5-8 pm with Rolie Polie Guacamole, Little Chefs Cooking Academy-kids cooking class for April Vacation
- Collecting Summer Reading prizes in goodie bags,
- Reading Challenge runs from March 11-April 30 with Smokey the Bear themed prizes. Giving out free trees
- Giant sticker poster for kids to add a sticker every time they visit the library
- Personalized book bag for the child who had the closest guess for the number of books in Children's Room challenge that took place on Take Your Child to the Library Day

Trustee Report: Joyce Parlapiano

- Trustees will be meeting next week
- Working on budget with the Advisory Committee on what Trustees want to see. Goal is a full time Teen Librarian, working on carving out some budget items to accomplish this objective. So far AdCom hasn't been responsive.
- Generous donations given as Memorials
- Intercom system and AEDs will be installed soon, essential for an emergency situation
- Working on Community Reads Programming
- Sue will attend Trustee meeting on 3/12; Janice 4/9

Membership: Colleen McManus

- 39 membership, 3 brand new members
- 254 total memberships representing 276 members
- Sara said that we have seen an increase in revenue from members selecting Good Friend (2), Great Friends (2) & Best Friends (2) memberships types. In 2024 to date, we have 23 memberships that fall into one of those categories.
- Raffle bag ready for anyone who paid for a 2024 membership drawing by 2/28/24.

Book Shop: Margi Rossetti

- Raffle Bag is ready for membership drawing
- Adam came yesterday, took 4 boxes of books
- Book Sorters have said donations continue to come in; however, some in poor quality
- Margi asked if the Pod in Café could be moved for Book Sale, Libby agreed
- Bundles discussion, the ones on ground floor sell. Betsy suggested "Children's Shoppe" sign with grommets. Margie will get measurements so Janice can place order

Book Sale: Lesleyann Foster

- Publicity done for Book Drive; bookmarks printed.
Will publicize for Spring Book Sale: Set up May 8, Book Sale May 9, 10, 11
- Lesleyann will send out Sign-Up Genius for Adults & one for Teen Volunteers
- Betsy B. suggested buying ad for Spring Book Sale in the FMA Pops Program.
Janice made a motion for \$100 for half page, second by Colleen. Motion passed.

Newsletter: Bernadette Thie

- Next issue of Friends' Newsletter will be going out in the middle of April. So please send me these articles and photos by April 1. Please let me know if that's a problem and if you need an extension. Also please note that the newsletter will be available towards the middle of April, so any advertising of upcoming programs should include only those happening after April 10th. Also, are the Friends planning on participating in Founders' Day? I was assuming so and can put a reminder in the Newsletter.
Bernadette asked for **articles** from:
- **Janice**- President's message-possible info on library's new budget to include full time Teen Librarian., **Libby**-Director's message, **Jennifer**-Teen Librarian message, **Emma**-Children's Department message, **Colleen**-names of new members since 1/1/24. Name from membership raffle winner with photo if available, **Lesleyann/Betsy B**-Book Drive & Book Sale slides & zoo tickets slide, **Bernadette**-new Board Members-Book Shop locations, new payment methods & Friends' Recommendations shelf. **Kevin** will send out a request for patrons to come to Town Meeting to support request for full time Teen Librarian. Any other suggestions are always welcome!

Old Business: None

New Business:

Sue Collins received a request to look into installing a large metal **Book Bin** at Foxboro Stop & Shop. Research revealed bin is very expensive, plus this would entail someone to lug books from bin to library; therefore, not practical.

Action Items: Sue Collins

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

Next meeting: April 3, 2024

Meeting at 7:00 pm in Community Meeting Room

Respectfully submitted: Sue Collins