

**Friends of Boyden Library**  
**Minutes of May Meeting**  
**May 1, 2024**

**Present:** Janice Rosado, Betsy Buckland, Sue Collins, Sara Halton, Bernadette Thie, Colleen McManus, Lesleyann Foster, Katherine Howard, Betsy Lorusso, Maureen Ryan, Director Libby O'Neill, Youth Services Librarian Emma Brelsford, Teen Librarian Jennifir Huston, Trustee Collin Earnst  
**Guest:** Kelly Conger & Bob Boynton

Janice Rosado called the meeting to order. Niloufer Rodriguez from Citizens Bank presented a check of \$1,250 to donation to the Friends. Janice & Nilo had a photo taken for the newspaper. Niloufer was top performer at the bank so she has the opportunity to donate to a non-profit organization. Her family, especially her daughter, use the Boyden Library frequently & love it! The family was interested in the money supporting a Makerspace for the library.

**Approval of April 3, 2024 Minutes: Sue Collins**

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

**Treasurer's Report: Sara Halton**

- For income: Book Shop did ok, sold some tote bags & memberships were collected. The Southwick Zoo passes have been selling quickly.
- There were a couple of expenses: advertising printing costs, Youth & Teen programming.

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

As Sara steps down, Katherine has agreed to take on the Treasurer's job! Sara kindly has agreed to help for a while. Plus, Bernadette can step in & write a check on a last-minute basis if Katherine is unavailable.

**Director's Report: Libby O'Neill**

- Will know more about the Makerspace Grant in July, appreciate Friends sponsoring laptops. Thanked Friends that helped sell books at Community Reads.
- In Children's Department, Katelyn left, Erin promoted to full time, looking for a candidate for her part time position
- Friends will sponsor Gardening 101 workshop, Bollywood Style dance class on the Common, and art workshops which are very popular
- Other programs: Digital Art Exhibit through Padlet - May's theme: Something you Can't Live Without
- Spice Club continues to be popular, last session is in May, will resume 1/25
- Jennifir is doing another popular floral workshop
- Speed Friend Matching is scheduled for adults

**Report from Teen Librarian: Jennifir Huston**

- Friends sponsored programs: Fairy Gnome Books using recycled books (for Earth Day), Learning to cooks Sushi with Juri Love, Sub Zero presents Nitrogen Ice Cream.
- Friends will help her purchase Summer Reading Prizes
- Had money for: Podcast Bundle Kit, 3D Printing Pen & 3 Fidget Pens
- Going to Ahern Middle School & will give them some giveaways including fidget toys
- For the Parade, Jennifir will decorate 3 Red Flyer wagons that teens can pull. Showed us one model that was fabulous! Will have teens give out Smarties.

### **Report from Youth Services Librarian: Emma Brelsford**

- “Ecotarium-Mission Earth & Space” will have different science stations
- Haitian Storyteller Charlot Lucien to celebrate Haitian Heritage Month
- Tom Brady Hall of Fame Party- Wed., June 12. Group workout ages 8-12, then a party with refreshments & crafts.
- Toddler Athletics Tournament - activities for the babies.
- Paint your own Squishy activity
- Buying prizes for Summer Reading Program: Baby-age 5 prizes: water mat, magnetic drawing board, Crayola Scribble Scrubbies, mini stuffies
- Emma just received an order from iRead with all the Summer Reading bookmarks, stickers, temporary tattoos, t-shirts, goodie bags, and much more to hand out throughout the summer

### **Trustee Report: Collin Earnst**

- Board thanked Collin for his years of dedication to our library: served 3 terms for 9 years, was on 2 search committees for Director. We wish you well in your new endeavors
- Collin stated this is the longest job he ever had, the most enjoyable!
- He has seen a lot of evolution in the library, including programming. Friends have made a lot of that happen.
- For **Library Trustees**, Sara Halton’s name will be on the ballot. **Write in Paul Ivanovskis**
- Town Meeting is important. Vote for the budget for a full time Teen Librarian
- Sue will attend Trustee meeting on 5/14 at 5 pm

### **Membership: Colleen McManus**

- 3 memberships with 5 individuals, no brand-new members
- 159 total memberships representing 186 members

### **Newsletter: Bernadette Thie**

- Requested that everyone take pictures of all the events taking place this summer: Founders Day Parade, Founders Day booth & Teddy Bear Picnic

### **Book Sale: Lesleyann Foster**

- Margi is not able to attend this meeting, but gave all the info to Lesleyann
- Book Drive was not all that successful but donations look ok
- 3 people called that have large donations. Kelly Conger volunteered to pick books up from 1 lady
- Charles cannot put up our Book Sale lawn signs but Lesleyann & Betsy will do it Sunday
- There is an extremely organized plan for setup. Bob Boynton can start setting up at 10. Other volunteers can come at 1. Betsy will set up the Café.
- Student volunteers will help set up & 7 will help box up books at the end
- Volunteers and Staff will be invited to shop early.
- Lesleyann mentioned perhaps holding a donation day social sometime in the future as a way to seek new volunteers. (Ideas included a mini sale and bring a book – take a book)

## **Old Business:**

### **Founders Day, June 8 – Sue Collins**

Renee will be dressed up as Bluey in front of library: kids can have their pictures taken with Bluey. Betsy & husband, Katherine & my daughter & I will help set up & break down canopies. Janice will loan us a canopy. Betsy will pick up books, tables, library canopy & yard games on Friday. Betsy will have some great treasures for a drawing! Thanks to Kelly Conger for her donations! Have temporary tattoos & lollipops to give away. Will setup for credit card sales & Venmo. All are invited to stop in during the day. Emma & Jennifir will have fun with patrons playing yard games!

**Teddy Bear Picnic, July 10, 5:30-8 pm. Sue Collins & Mo Ryan** will sell pre-school books & give away lollipops & temporary tattoos. Sara has volunteered to set up for credit card & Venmo sales. Will have a sign for the Venmo.

## **New Business:**

### **1. Social Media Reminder – Janice Rosado**

Jen Linsky does our publicity, if you need any Blasts ask Jen

### **2. Bartholomew Review – Janice Rosado**

We will meet in the Fall

### **3. Fall Social**

Community Room will be booked for October 9 from 5-9 pm. Will discuss more at June meeting but thinking of a game night, (mini-golf, giant Jenga, bowling etc.). Refreshments can be in the Fuller Room. Janice asked that everyone do some research and bring ideas to our next meeting.

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

**Next meeting: June 5, 2024**

**Meeting at 7:00 pm in Community Meeting Room**

Respectfully submitted: Sue Collins