

Friends of Boyden Library
Minutes of September Meeting
September 4, 2024

Present: Janice Rosado, Betsy Buckland, Sue Collins, Colleen McManus, Katherine Howard, Maureen Ryan, Margi Rossetti, Betsy Lorusso, Charles DiPompo, Director Libby O'Neill, Youth Services Librarian Emma Brelsford, Teen Librarian Jennifir Huston, Kevin Penders – Trustee

Janice Rosado called the meeting to order.

President's Update – Betsy, Sue & Janice met with Libby, asked if we could help with anything. Since library didn't get Grant money for Makerspace, we wanted to help with that area. Plus, Janice wants to work with the Foxboro Cultural Council to produce some Friends' personalized Snowflake mugs, for possible sale or drawing items. Come February, elections are coming up. Everyone, start thinking about a position because Janice has served 3 consecutive 2-year terms.

Approval of June 5, 2024 Minutes: Sue Collins

Betsy made a motion to accept the amended June Minutes; second by Margi. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Katherine Howard

- Katherine thinks her name is now on the checks & she is official with the One Local Bank.

We had a busy summer, Income: Southwick Zoo sold 225 passes & Memorials for Ed O'Leary, up to \$1345 at this point. Book Shop sales were brisk.

- We paid for lots of programs.
- We will meet with Batholomew & transfer some money from checking to our Batholomew Account. We will go with Katherine to introduce her & sign paperwork.
- Katherine is learning Moneyfinder, Venmo & other accounts.

Janice made a motion to accept the report, Betsy second. Motion passed.

Director's Report: Libby O'Neill

- Completed ARIS (Annual Report Information Survey) for the MBLC and FY24 fiscal year (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024):
Total visits to the library: 108,573 (last year's number was 94,420)
Total circulation of physical materials: 130,386 (versus 128,559 from last year)
Total number of live, in-person programs at the library: 527 with 8,082 total attendance. Last year's numbers were: 357 with 5,127 total attendance.
- Thank you to the Friends for sponsoring the adult Bingo reading challenge prizes: 18 participants (same as last year), but 59 bingo sheets were picked up.
- Summer Friends sponsored programs: Carol Cohen as Abigail Adams, and Christopher Daley talking about Bonnie and Clyde.
- Exploring Makerspace options for the library, and taking field trips to see other library makerspaces
- Partnered with MassDOT, Patriot Place and BPL for Browse, Borrow, Board program for commuters to have free access to eBooks/audiobooks without a library card
- Social worker intern office hours at the library... launching this fall, more details to come
- Saturday, 9/28 - in celebration of Good Neighbor Day - a puzzles and coloring program to connect people with other locals

- Upcoming Friends programs: 9/17 author Matt Davis who wrote *At Home in the World: Reflections of a Travel Addict*; 9/19 art workshop with Lidia; 9/24 Putin's War: His Motives, Claims, and Lies with Dmitri Yakovlev

Report from Teen Librarian: Jennifir Huston

- Summer reading: 44 sign ups (up from 15 last year!)
23,705 Logged Minutes (up from 7687 minutes from last year!)
- Pulled tickets for Summer Reading prizes:
Eleven prizes: 3 Fidget Pens, Podcast Kit Bundle for 2, 3D Doodler Pen
- Programming Sponsored by the Friends
 - June: Felted Patches with Pop Up Art School & Crafty Teens: Sunflower Wreaths
 - July: Crafty Teens: Decorate a Seashell & Cupcake Wars with Inspired and Connected
 - August: Escape Room for Teens & Adults
- Upcoming Programming Provided by the Friends
 - September: Crafty Teens: Fall Banner & Tarot Readings with Grim Goddess
 - October: School visit giveaways & Cacti & Crystals with Klassic Creations

Report from Youth Services Librarian: Emma Brelsford

- Emma had a very busy summer
- Children's Summer Reading Program: 351 kids participated, logging 189,907 minutes of reading (ages 5-12) and 2,909 books (ages 0-4).

Friends funded programs & prizes: Didgeridoo Down Under, SRP Kickoff Party @ Payson: Flying High Frisbee, Dogs, Talewise Science Heroes, Teddy Bear Picnic Band-Rolie Polie Guacamole, One Up Games Indoor Mini Golf, Records & Burpee Traveling Zoo Show, Ecotarium Night Sky program, Pop-up Art School- Clay Campfire Candle Holders, End of Summer Bash-messy art supplies, Toddler Athlete Tournament, Mother's Support Group materials, Fairy Garden Houses materials, Extra Croc charms and stuffies for SRP prizes

- Programs to look forward to: Baby Sign Language Party w/ Baby Kneads, Playful Engineers- Traveling STEM workshop, Mike Bent Magician-Spooky Kooky Halloween Show

Trustee Report: Kevin Penders

- Kevin said that at the next Trustee meeting, they will make a list of Trustee reps to our meetings
- Thanks to everyone supporting the library's budget at Town Meeting. Survived Town Meeting with everyone's support. Thrilled that Jennifir is full time. You see other towns have problems.
- Paul Ivanovskis is onboard so we will have a full Trustee Board
- Kevin once again will be Chair before he retires in 18 months, Jen Ooi is Vice Chair & Sara Halton is Clerk

Membership: Colleen McManus

- June to August: 7 memberships, 3 brand-new members
- 191 total memberships, 12 more than last year
- Membership list will be sent out to the Board. If anyone knows of someone passing, let Colleen know.
- Janice will check with Sara or Jen Linskey about new members being added to Constant Contact

Newsletter: Janice reported for Bernadette Thie

- The next newsletter will be going out in the middle of October. Please send Bernadette these articles, photos and graphics by Oct. 1st. Please let her 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 October, so any advertising of upcoming programs should include only those happening after Oct. 10th.

- Janice - President's message, Libby - Director's message, Jennifir - Teen librarian message, Emma - Children's department message, Colleen - names of new Friends since April 1, 2024, Lesleyann/Betsy - book drive (if any) and book sale slides, Bernadette - Founder's Day. Teddy Bear picnic, Nilo's Friends' donation, new Treasurer, Prison Book Program writeup
- Could someone please provide a writeup and/or graphic about the Fall Social?
- Please let her know if she's missing anything. Any other suggestions are always welcome!

Book Shop: Margi Rossetti

- Margi dealt with a large donation of about 20 boxes.
- Every Saturday or Monday many times, bags were left at the front door. Books sorted to various places. Adam came twice. Prospective donation of some French books of a popular series that Adam is interested in.
- We had a large pickup by Bay State Books. Needed to call them.
- Got a large donation of Vintage books. If Adam isn't interested, we'll try to sell them at the Book Sale.
- Betsy Lorusso will be a Liaison to Bay State Books. Mo will also help to send out emails for help with large donations or contact a sub.

Book Sale: Betsy Buckland presented; Lesleyann Foster unable to attend

- Thanked Libby for setting aside the rooms for the Book Sale.
- Lesleyann created Canva Designs for Fall Book Sale Promotional Materials, including bookmarks. Emails will be sent sharing documents with Library staff, Bernadette, and Jen L. once finalized.
- Book Drives are noted on the Event Calendar for September 14 & October 19. Lesleyann will prepare the flyers and send a signup genius out to membership requesting volunteers for the event later this week.
- Canva Document – Number of designers/members allowed has increased. Please let Lesleyann know if there are Friends who are interested.
- Other: Proposed that we have right of first refusal for library discards, mainly in high interest categories.
- Canva Designs for Lawn Signs: once design is finalized, signs will be ordered. Thinking of ordering 30.
- Betsy made a motion to allot \$500 to purchase lawn signs, second by Katherine. Motion passed.

Old Business:

1. Founders Day, June 8 – Sue Collins

Sue stated that Renee dressed up as Bluey in front of library & kids had their pictures taken with Bluey. Betsy, Rick, Katherine, Gary, my daughter & I set up & broke down 2 canopies. Betsy picked up the books, tables, library canopy & yard games & put together a beautiful basket for a drawing! Temporary tattoos were a hit! Glad we had Venmo QR code sign. Even though we didn't sell a lot of books, great to see excitement when a child or grandmother or auntie found the perfect book! Appreciated Emma, Jennifir & the teens that marched in the Parade spending time with us. Jenga towers crashing down was fun!

2. Teddy Bear Picnic, July 10. Sue Collins & Bernadette Thie set up a table & sold pre-school books. Venmo sign was essential. The temporary tattoos were popular. We had a great time clapping along to the band!

3. Fall Social – Janice Rosado

Janice met with Devon at Union Straw. Date is **Wed October 23rd 7-9** (set up at 6:30) at Union Straw front function room. Sign up through Library (Libby will initiate that Sept. 23). Maximum of 30 (Board members don't need to sign up just let Mo know). Drinks and appetizers. Each Friend will receive a complimentary drink (beer, wine or non-alcoholic beverage). After that, they are welcome to set up their own tab. Jen Linskey is donating 2 bottles each of red and white wine which will be deducted from our tab. Janice picked 3 items that are always available and can sub later if there is something we prefer from the new menu. Margarita Flatbread, Chicken Sliders and chips/dip; we had the sliders and flatbread last year and they were a hit. Beer

selection will be based on what is available that night. We will do some door prizes, Union Straw will once again donate three \$15 gift cards. Room will be set up to maximize mingling but there will be chairs available We can reserve one of the high tops located just outside the function room for overflow if we think we will need it. If Board members go, tell Mo, don't register. Will need to have the credit card reader that night (Hopefully Katherine will be able to attend!) Mo will help Janice.

New Business:

1. Donations in Memory of Ed O'Leary- Janice Rosado

Over \$1,300 received in Memorials for Police Chief Ed O'Leary. Claudia loved the idea of buying mysteries, suspense & true crime books & put a name plate inside. An idea was to have a shelf of these books labeled the "Ed O'Leary Shelf".

2. Friends Information Binder- Betsy Buckland

Betsy stated that Betsy & Sue will create a reference binder with general information about the Friends. It will be kept at the Circulation Desk. This is especially good for new Board Members or when transferring info to new Committee Chairs. Will include: General Information of the Library, Board of Trustees, quick overview of the Friends organization, monthly agenda, Committee Chairs and Executive Committee roles and responsibilities, etc.

Adjourn: Katherine made a motion to adjourn; second by Charles. Motion passed.

Next meeting: October 3, 2024

Meeting at 7:00 pm in Friends Community Meeting Room

Respectfully submitted: Sue Collins