

## **Friends Board of Directors Meeting**

Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024

1. **Call to Order** by President Martha Nork at 7:01 pm.
2. **Attendance**  
Present: Racha Alchommali, Linda Bastien, Kathy Fox, Cindy Frango, Betty Kaiser, Claire Kreher, Chris Litka, Laura Mancini, Kimberly Meisel, Regina Mingela, Martha Nork, Maria Williams  
Absent: Charlene Cach, Linda Schwelnus, Denise Stacer
3. **Approval of Agenda** - Motion to approve the agenda was made by Chris Litka and seconded by Regina Mingela. Motion passed.
4. **Review and approval of Meeting Minutes** from June 20, 2024 - Motion to approve the minutes was made by Linda Bastien and seconded by Claire Kreher. Motion passed.
5. **Secretary's Report** - Kathy read 2 notes, one from Regina M. and one from Kyle Brown (scholarship recipient.)
6. **President's Report** - Martha Nork
  - The Board voted via email to sponsor 2 upcoming programs at the library: Dore Production's Harry and Bess Truman for \$300, and City of Lights Chorus for \$1,000 (which will be donated in 2025.) The Board also voted to contribute \$350 towards the Community Reads program for the books. This will put our 2024 total for Program Sponsorship at \$2,475.
  - We received a donation of \$250 from Mr. Jim Hudgins in May of this year in memory of his mother, Barbara Hudgins, to be used for the "Library of Things." He saw the article about the Birding kits in our newsletter and wanted to know if we could purchase more or something similar. Emily, Adult Services Librarian staff member responsible for that collection, was contacted. She was very happy with this request and suggested that 2 additional kits would be helpful since these items are checked out on a regular basis. The Friends voted via email to contribute the additional \$93. A total of \$343 will be transferred to the library for this purchase. It has been noted on the website that these additional kits are in memory of Barbara Hudgins, a longtime Friends volunteer and member.
  - In August, the Friends received a donation from Judith Costigan in the amount of \$2,000.
  - Our Bookmark contest for kids is running now through September 30th. The winners will be selected by the committee on October 1st and the printed bookmarks will be available for the first time at our Cider on Sunday event. Thanks to the Library for the wonderful poster by the Circulation Desk!
  - Cider on Sunday is Sunday, Oct. 20th in the Carlo Room. A sign-up sheet is being circulated for volunteers. Charlene has offered to do the craft for kids again. Board members are asked to consider contributing one new item or obtain a donation from a business for the raffle baskets.
  - On behalf of the Friends, thanks to the library staff for the nice Volunteer Appreciation event on Tuesday evening.

7. **Library Director's Report** - Laura Mancini

Library Board Changes: Barry Puckett and Karren Yurgalite, both city residents have been appointed to the Library Board to complete the terms previously held by Tom Thompson and Bob Sochacki who resigned earlier this year. Three Library Board seats will be on the November ballot. Incumbents Joe Corriveau, Barry Puckett and Nick Vlisides are all running for re-election. Jennifer Gustafson is also running for a seat.

Staff Changes: Carla Eggert, Business Operations Specialist retired in July. The position is posted now, if you know of any good candidates, please encourage them to apply. Amy Orsburn was promoted to be the Head of Circulation.

Summer Reading: The NDL concluded its annual Summer Reading program, and this year was a smashing success. The number of participants from this year to last year increased by 23%. The library had 1,297 adults, teens and youth sign up for this year's program with a 76% completion rate. These are the highest Summer Reading numbers since I have been here at the library. The Summer Reading finale party was on August 7 in the park in front of the library and was attended by over 220 people. They were treated to tattoos, a bounce house, balloons, and Kona ice. An enjoyable time was had by all, and our incredible librarians deserve a huge round of applause for their work on this year's program which is generously sponsored by the Friends.

NDL Card Redesign: The Library is currently holding a contest to redesign its Library Card. Submissions will be accepted until September 30th.

Freedom to Read: During banned books week, which is September 22-28, NDL patrons can enter a raffle to win some Freedom to Read prizes.

September is also National Library Card signup month. Encourage your Friends and Neighbors to sign up for a card. Any children who sign up for a card this month will receive a free packet of back-to-school supplies.

8. **Treasurer's Report** - Martha Nork for Linda Schwelnus

Martha presented the Financial Report for June through August for 2024. For the month of August, with bank interest, donations, Gift Books, membership, and used books, income was \$3,840.90. Our YTD total income is \$29,915.35. YTD expenses are \$13,377.74. Checking is at \$62,309.01.

A motion to approve the Financial Report for August and Year to Date 2024, was made by Cindy Frango and seconded by Kimberly Meisel. It was unanimously approved.

9. **Committee Reports:**

A. Gift Books - Claire Kreher

Since June 20th, we received 13 Gifts - 8 Memorials and 5 Honorary for a total of \$762. (\$125 from Friends of NDL)

We added 54 books.

- B. Volunteer Appreciation - Claire Kreher  
July: Charlene Cach (Board), Dave Bolitho (Volunteer)  
August: Regina Mingela (Board), Robin Bolitho (Volunteer)  
September: Cindy Frango (Board), Barb Ulbrich (Volunteer)
  
- C. Newsletter & Public Relations - Chris Litka  
- Chris worked with Sarah to change the format of the newsletter and they came up with a beautiful design. It is finished and will be prepared for mailing on Tuesday, 9/24 at 2 pm. Volunteers are needed.
  
- D. Used Book Operations - Linda Bastien  
- August Book Cellar total was \$1519.35.  
- Kids Book Sale on Sunday, June 30th netted \$236.00.  
- Andrea and Chuck Murdock have volunteered to handle our Book Sales.
  
- E. Membership - Cindy Frango  
Our current membership is:  
Patrons/Businesses - **28** Family - **36** Individual - **65** Teens - **3**  
Lifetime - **14** A total of **146 Members**
  
- F. Scholarships - No report.

10. **Motion to adjourn** 7:51 pm Motion passed.