

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Friends of Brooks Memorial Library
May 15, 2019

Present: Joyce Marcel, Betsy Wagenknecht, Connie Kimball, Sue Dyer, John Komar, Kathryn Turnas , Karen Duggan, Starr Latronica (for the library). Seven (7) Friends were present.

The meeting was called to order at 4:32pm.

The minutes were accepted as written. Thank you to Sue Dyer for taking them at the April meeting.

The April Treasurer's report will be presented at the next meeting. Connie reported on the budget for the current year, then presented the proposed budget of \$34,900 for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. The budget was adopted.

We voted for the following officers: Joyce Marcel, President; Betsy Wagenknecht, Vice President; Karen Duggan, Secretary; Connie Kimball, Treasurer.

Joyce reported on some of the highlights of our work this year, including: the annual appeal; the book sales and Amazon sales (thanks to Betsy, Elaine Murray and Bob Oeser); the newsletter (thanks to Betsy); the First Wednesday program and the successful funding secured for it (thanks to John); the members' party and the dessert gala; our partnership with Rotary to sell and raffle the little libraries; another Samirah concert; program sponsorships and museum pass purchases; our continued support of the Words Project; and our support of the Foundation Center database.

Joyce also shared that we lost two board members this year. Kate Wylie moved out of Brattleboro and Jennifer Robinson is no longer able to serve on the board. We are still looking for two new members to join our board.

We discussed the possibility of rewarding those people who help with Amazon sales, as they have been so successful. We will discuss this further at our next meeting.

Joyce and Betsy revised the Handbook. Joyce briefly outlined the changes. Sue moved that we accept the most recent updates to the manual. Bob Oeser suggested that we add a Friends board member to the list of those able to post on our Facebook page. We accepted this as a friendly amendment and the motion passed. The Handbook will be printed and given to board members.

Starr invited us to a board retreat at her home on June 15th. She will send directions and a potluck sign-up. Because of this retreat, we will not meet in June.

The new Circulation Manager, Courtney Carey, introduced herself.

Joyce shared information from her research about banners and signs. We voted to spend up to \$400 for signs, banners or flags to advertise the Friends and our events.

Starr requested \$300 for a telescope. We voted to fund this with the understanding that the borrower be asked to sign for responsibility. Starr will check with the West Lebanon Library about their policy, as this was where she got the idea for this purchase. Starr also requested \$300 for a concert and book launch for an Irish musician (approved); \$200 for a series on the Bill of Rights by Meg Mott (approved); and permission for the Youth Services staff to use the Young Adult budget for new furniture (approved).

Starr also shared that the Hip Hop concert was a huge success and thanked us for our funding.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Duggan