

Friends of Brooks Memorial Library
Board Meeting Minutes, December 15, 2021, via Zoom

Present: Joyce Marcel, Sue Dyer, Diane Leary, Connie Kimball, Amity DeAngelis, Kevin O'Keefe, Sharon Meyers, Karen Duggan, Ann Varilly (for the Trustees), and Starr Latronica and Jeni Clary (for the library)

Joyce Marcel called the meeting to order at 4:33pm.

The minutes, written by Diane Leary, were approved.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was approved and will be filed for audit. Our November 30th the treasury balance was \$50,477.84. Connie reported that the Book Sale has brought in \$4,230.50 so far. The amount of the Annual Appeal changes daily, with PayPal and other donations coming in; at this point, we have received around \$5,000.

President's Report

Joyce has sent letters to area businesses asking for board members. She will send a second round of letters after the new year.

We are starting to sell books on Amazon again! Sharon graciously agreed to be our shipper (with thanks to Starr for shipping this week's time-sensitive item). Joyce and Diane are working to sell 313 of our books.

Robert Stack's memorial gathering will be held at the library on Sunday, December 19th, 1-4pm.

The Book Sale was quite successful. It will become "by donation" on Monday. Kevin and Starr will consolidate the shelves, and we will try to wind down, pick it up, and get books to Roundabout by the first week in January.

Future Fundraising

We discussed winter fundraising ideas. A snowman contest? Something during Winter Carnival? Something at the Retreat Farm this winter? One idea we liked was a "Brattleboro Bonanza" basket raffle. Board members will try to solicit gift cards/certificates to various local places, and we will revisit this idea at our January meeting. Jeni and Joyce will work on our application to be considered for the Co-op's "Round-up" donation program.

Library Director's Report

Starr reports that the library has been very busy. There is a high demand for the private meeting spaces during Covid. She showed us the great new library card designed by Eileen Christelow, who also donated 700 of her books to be given away to local children. Starr and library staff are working on the plan and publicity for making that happen in the new year — "a new book for the new year!" They are also looking at distribution of those books via the Bookmobile.

While there were no formal requests from staff, Starr shared that she may come to us in the future for funds to rent the Latchis for a Children's Room/Sandglass puppet show during Winter Carnival. The library and town are also looking into insurance coverage for the electric bikes, and we may be asked to contribute towards that.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:36pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Duggan