

Friends of Brooks Memorial Library

Minutes of Board Meeting, February 16, 2022, via Zoom

Participants: Joyce Marcel, Connie Kimball, Amity DeAngelis, Sharon Meyers, Kevin O'Keefe, Karen Duggan, Jeanne Walsh (for the library), and Howard Burrows (for the Trustees)

The meeting was called to order at 4:37 pm.

The minutes were accepted as written.

Financial Issues

- The Treasurer's Report was accepted and will be filed for audit. Our treasury balance as of January 31, 2022, was \$62,897.13.
- All agreed to accept Connie's suggestions to:
 - put the soon-to-mature CD into our checking account (due to low interest rate)
 - form a finance committee
- All agreed to follow Howard's suggestion not to invest in a Vanguard-type fund until we get advice from the Trustees' Finance Committee, which is also considering the issue.
- The Annual Appeal total so far is \$14,225. (Joyce and Connie were able to secure a matching grant for one donation, turning \$100 into \$200.)
- Joyce asked for birthday donations to the Friends via Facebook, and we received \$260.
- Jeni and Joyce have submitted the Coop "Round-Up" form on our behalf.
- We have had no luck on selling our special books so far. Howard is still in contact with a bookseller in Northampton who might be interested and will get more information and photos of the books to that person. Sharon shipped two books that we sold via Amazon.

Library Requests/Ideas

- Jeanne told us that the library has assumed the cost of the Foundation Center. She mentioned that she made a presentation about it to area groups via the BDCC and suggested that we might want to be included in the BDCC's database as a reputable non-profit. She and Kevin will investigate getting the Friends included in their "seal of transparency" program.
- Jeanne asked for:
 - \$2,000 to add more resources for the library on the LIBBY software that patrons currently use. We approved this request.
 - funding to purchase more large-print books. This was tabled as we need to check our charter about book purchasing, which usually comes out of the library budget.
 - \$995 to purchase "Pronunciator," a language learning program with a better format and more languages than Mango, our current program. We were all impressed with her demo and voted to fund it.
- Starr asked, via Joyce, for \$650 to rent the Latchis and fund the Sandglass Puppet Theater for a Winter Carnival Week show. We approved this request.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Duggan