

Friends of the Brooks Memorial Library
Minutes of Board Meeting, May 18, 2022, via Zoom

Attending: Joyce Marcel, Karen Duggan, Kevin O'Keefe, Diane Leary, Sue Dyer, Sharon Myers, and Connie Kimball; Starr LaTronica and Jeanne Walsh (for the library); Ken Fay, Janice Stockman, Ellen Bronstein, and Bob Oeser (guests)

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 pm.

Minutes

The April 20th minutes were read and accepted. Kevin asked a question about the I Bond. Joyce reminded us that once the minutes are accepted, they cannot be changed.

Treasurer's Report: Connie

- Treasury balance as of April 1, 2022: \$57,847.
- The Finance Committee (Sharon, Diane, & Connie) recommends that we keep our CD until January 2023 and decide what to do with it then. (The current interest rate is only .05%.)
- The I Bond is getting an interest rate of 9.62% (which answers Kevin's question).
- Our Amazon account is on hold. We will need to decide what to do with it in the future.
- The Treasurer's report was accepted.

President's Report: Joyce (her last report, as she is stepping down after today's meeting)

- **Book Sales**
Joyce had omitted book sales from the agenda but said it is a good source of income. We decided to hold another sale in December and to start collecting books in September. In future years we may want to hold more than one sale as we have done in the past.
- **Farewells**
Joyce expressed that it has been her honor to serve as president for six years. She thanked everyone for the work the board has done. Karen thanked her on the board's behalf. She was given (via her partner Randy) two gift bags. Starr represented the library staff in thanking Joyce. They also gave her a gift bag.

Election of New Officers

The slate of officers was voted on and accepted:

Co-Presidents: Sue Dyer and Karen Duggan

Secretary: Diane Leary

Treasurer: Connie Kimball

Budget 2022-2023

\$36,540 is the proposed budget. (A detailed budget was sent as a separate document for this meeting.)

The expense column has been consistent over the last several years. There were questions about the newsletter and the young adult room. Connie clarified the changes to these items.

The budget was passed.

Board Recruitment

We will follow up with three of today's visitors (Janice Stockman, Ken Fay, and Ellen Bronstein) to gauge their interest in becoming board members. We'll look at more ideas at next month's meeting.

Fundraising Ideas

- corporate funding for First Wednesdays
Sharon agreed to do this again.
The VT Humanities Council gives the library little advance notice of events.
- dessert night (perhaps a March Mud Season party)
- book sale raffle
- ice cream party
- garden party in August

Library Report: Starr

- News
 - The library has returned to pre-COVID hours.
 - The staff are gearing up for Summer Reading.
 - New staff have been added: Max Neworth, Amanda Whiting, and Kevin O'Brien.
 - The library will be represented at Gallery Walk on June 3.
 - The grand opening of the library's garden and tool shed will be held on June 4, 10:00 – 12:00. Andy Davis will play at both events.
 - The 4th of July parade will need marchers for the library contingent. (There will be more discussion of this at our June 15th meeting.)
 - Starr asked us to complete a library survey and ask our friends to do so as well.
- Requests

We agreed to the following library requests:

 - \$700 for performances by Robert Rivest during the "Read Beyond the Beaten Path" summer reading program (requested by Chloe)
 - \$500 for a tool box for the Field to Fork Tool Cottage

New Business

- Kevin recommended that library staff ask for assistance from the board in setting up Gallery Walk and other displays. Starr will email us for help.
- Sandy Stark sent a thank-you note for books for the new baby bags.

Meeting adjourned at 5:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Leary