

## Friends of Brook Memorial Library

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting – August 17, 2022

(Meeting format: in-person only)

Present: Karen Duggan, Sue Dyer, Sharon Myers, Diane Leary, Connie Kimball, Amity DeAngelis; Starr LaTronica (Library Director), Jeni Clary (Library Circulation Manager), Jeanne Walsh (Information Services Librarian), Karen Tyler (Library Trustee)

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 pm.

The minutes of the July meeting were reviewed and accepted.

### Treasurer's Report (Connie)

- Treasury balances: opening on 7/1/22 at \$55,791.23 and ending on 7/31/22 at \$57,408.38
- I-Bond: no change in value, as it will not collect interest until April of 2023
- Garden Party: an additional \$700
- Checking account: Connie arranged for Sue and Karen to become authorized signatories for our Brattleboro Savings & Loan checking account in case Connie is not available.

### President's Report (Sue)

Kevin's Woolly Mammoth was featured in Jill Lepore's coverage of our 4th of July parade in *The New Yorker* (August 15<sup>th</sup> issue, "Talk of the Town" section).

### First Wednesdays (Sharon, Starr)

- The 2022/2023 season will begin in October. The cost for the season is \$1800.
- No additional funding has been received from local businesses over the last month.

### Ice Cream Party (Karen)

- The Ice Cream Party will be held on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3:00-5:30 pm, at the Kiwanis Shelter.
- The ice cream will be offered free of charge, but donations will be accepted.
- Supplies
  - Diane received a \$20 gift certificate from Market 32, which will be used for cones. Karen will ask either Fast Eddie's or Gouger's for enough cones to make the total 200 (to be determined after Diane reports what the \$20 buys).
  - Sharon will ask the Fire Department for ice.
  - The library will provide cups and spoons.
  - Karen will ask Kevin to buy popsicles and napkins, for which he'll be reimbursed.
- Publicity
  - Jeni will print flyers, some of which will be sent to local schools. We will reimburse the town for the cost.
  - In the latest library newsletter, Jeni included a thank-you note to the Co-op for their ice cream donation.

### Book Sale (Jeni and Karen)

- The start date for book donations has not yet been determined, but it will be after Labor Day.
- "Special books" (worth more than \$2-\$3) will be placed on a gift table, but not much time will be spent determining the value of books.

## Gallery Walk

We decided not to participate in September's Gallery Walk.

## Library Report (Starr)

- Thanks to those who helped set up Chess Alley at the August Gallery Walk. It was a popular event, though not as much as the previous year because of the poor weather forecast.
- August has been very busy, and the library is short-staffed because of vacations.
- Accounts Clerk position  
Cathy Johnson retired on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Her replacement, Anne Monders, will begin on August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 25 hrs/week. She has experience in bookkeeping and is new to Brattleboro.
- New strategic plan  
The library is holding two forums to get input from community members to help in developing a new strategic plan:
  - Wednesday, August 24 at 7:00 pm, in person, to be facilitated by Trustee President Leo Schiff
  - Thursday, August 25 at 7:00 pm, via ZoomThe previous strategic plan was written six years ago.  
Starr met with the Selectboard on August 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss the plan and invite them to attend one of the forums.
- Library requests
  - \$435 for a shelving unit to hold the 15 Launch Pads in the Children's Room.  
We voted no (because the Trustees typically support furniture requests) but would revisit the request if the Trustees don't approve it.
  - \$500 for a Memoir Writing Workshop (3 sessions) to be held by Shin Freedman.  
We voted yes.
  - \$350 for a 90-minute program by Robert Azzi. (The program title, to be chosen by library staff, will be either "The History of Muslims in America" or "Ask a Muslim Anything.")  
We voted yes.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 pm.

Submitted by D. Leary