

Friends of Brooks Memorial Library
Minutes of Board Meeting, May 17, 2023

Present: Karen Duggan, Sue Dyer, Connie Kimball, Diane Leary, Janice Stockman, Dayle Doiron, Sharon Myers, Amity DeAngelis;
for the Library: Starr LaTronica (Director), Jeni Clary (Circulation), Sirkka Kaufman (Trustee);
guests: Betsy Wagenknecht (former board member), Connie Cline

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

The April minutes were reviewed and accepted.

Treasurer's Report (Connie) .

- Balances: opening (4/1/23) \$69,761.54; closing (4/30/23) \$67,693.60 (details in separate report)
- Report was accepted and filed.
- We voted to open a brokerage account with Fidelity and move Treasury bills and I-bonds to it when they mature.
- Thanks to Connie for all her years (8) serving as Treasurer.
- Annual Budget
 - The balance on 4/1/22 was \$57,847.35.
 - After a review, we accepted the 2023/24 budget.
 - The Annual Treasurer's Report was audited and filed.
 - Annual subscriptions (details in separate report)

We voted to renew all museum passes and other items (e.g., Kanopy, Mango, etc.) and added BookPage and Pronunciator. The Treasurer can pay these bills without asking the board for approval.

Presidents' Report (Karen and Sue)

- They reviewed the transition to post-COVID times, with the Garden Party, the Book Sale, and the Annual Appeal letter.
- "Novels and Nosh" will be held on Friday, May 19; the entrance fee will be \$10. Board members will contribute sweet and savory treats. A novel or non-fiction book will be given to each attendee. Board members will meet on Thursday, May 18, to wrap books.

Library Report (Starr)

- Starr will be attending the annual ALA meeting in Chicago and will be looking at what is currently available to libraries.
- She thanked the Friends' board for support of the 4th of July parade, First Wednesdays, teen programming, the Center for Community Listening, food prep and equipment loaned to the library in partnership with Edible Brattleboro, "Sing and Dance with Robin," and dinner for high schoolers during the Kekla Magoon event.
- She reminded us that 11 Internet Hotspots are available for check-out at the library.
- The library staff plans to increase public outreach, spreading the word about the many services the library provides.
- Starr noted that we are lucky not to have frightening book challenges.
- Library requests totaling \$1,100 were approved:

\$800 for Children's Summer Reading Program; \$300 for Adult Summer Reading Program

The meeting adjourned at 5:58 pm.

Submitted by Diane Leary, Secretary