

FRIENDS OF THE WALKER MEMORIAL LIBRARY Minutes

January 23, 2020

President Kerri Frazier, opened the Friends' Jan. 23, 2020 Meeting at 5:30 pm in the Eleanor Conant Saunders Reading Room.

Attendees: Regina Rofe-Treasurer, Pat Larrabee, Edna Flaherty - Exec. Board Member, Cathy Geren - Vice President, Joan Austin - Exec. Board Member, Sondra Taylor - Exec. Board Member, Rose Bebris - Library Director, Kelly Day - Exec. Board Member, Kerri Frazier - President and Jane Ann McNeish.

Absent Officers & Board -Luke Sorenson, Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **January Birthdays:** Happy birthday to Friends' Member Regina Rofe!
- **Library Board Meeting:** The board meets the third Thursday of the month from 4 to ? Feel free to join - everyone welcome!
- **Friends of the Walker Memorial Book Club:** Meets the second Wednesday of the month at the Community Center at 3 pm. Next book "Where the Crawdad Sings" by Delia Owens on February 12th
- **Game Night at Joan Austin's House:** January 31st at 7pm
- **Annual Friends Potluck Meeting:** February 27th. Bring a dish to share! Soups, salads, desserts...or snacks. Held in the staff kitchen - take a right into the door to the right of the lending desk. Staff invited to share dinner with us too! Kelly will invite.
- **Kathy Thornton:** Bring in your old holiday cards. She recycles them into the cool bookmarks you see at the front desk.

Treasurer's Report & Membership – Regina Rofe - see attachment for 2019 Income, and 2019 Expenses - final total for income \$3,631.55, and final total for expenses is \$1,827.70. As of 1/22/20 the checking account balance is: \$5,403.04.

Secretary's Report – No report to present - Luke Sorensen (absent)

Old Business: Valentines Tea: The Valentine's Tea date has been set for Saturday, Feb 8th from 12 pm to 4 pm. Music: Mary Levesque 12 to 2 pm & maineblend 2 to 245. Sign ups - Please sign up to help out, bring food and/or bring in supplies (teapots, tea, napkins and plates).

- Sign and Flyers - Anyone interested in making the outside sign or posting flyers around town? Postings so far on Walker website, Westbrook Community Channel, City website and hope to post on the city reader board. Thank you, Kelly for submitting articles to the American Journal.
- Fundraising ideas at the event – mug rug, pet treats, raffle basket?

Quilt Raffle: A Friends member has donated a beautiful quilt. The raffle will go through the end of February - the 29th. Tickets 1 for \$5, 3 for \$10.

Donations: We have had several donations in the last month: Alice Persons - \$50, Brenda Buchanan - \$50, and John and Leah Thibault in Memory of Dana Ann Batt - \$1000 to go to Youth Services. Rose and Kate have suggested a children's kitchen set from Constructive Playthings - which will cost 700-800. It has a hardwood sink and stove, the Norway library has one, and it has served them well. Durable. Joan Austin suggested a Motion that the Friend's purchase the kitchen for the children's section of the library, and Edna Flaherty seconded it. Motion passed.

Santa's Bench: Kelly has obtained an additional quote. Do we want to do this? Steve Boucher, woodworker and historical artist from Brunswick, ME gave us a quote of 4,600; he said it is an original Walker Memorial library piece from the 1800's, and he would restore historically.. Liberty Bell in Portland said 452.40 for the restoration. These are 2 additional quotes, plus the one that Kerri had received. Could we have directed fundraising for this? A picture & donation box at the front desk? Or donations at the annual meeting in May, or the book sale in June? We have decided to table this for now. Rose will gather more information, and advise.

NEW BUSINESS: Friends website update: Peak at how our website is progressing! Jason & Kerri Frazier are donating the cost and the time as volunteers to make this site: www.walkerfriends.org. We might hook up Paypal to this so that people could donate to the library, etc; - Paypal has a discounted rate for 5013C's.

Scholarship: Do we want to make any changes to the annual "Bucks for Books" scholarship? What deadline date do we want to set for this? early or late May? Talk has been to eliminate the scholarship, or possibly change it to give 300.00 directly at class night - for general school expenses, with no receipt to send in to us. Or do we like getting the thank you, and knowing what they bought? Books are not being bought for school as much, as they are reading online for textbooks. Does the student have to be a library patron - need to discuss? Class night is usually in June - anyone interested in presenting the award this year? What did the guidance counselor Linda Bailey recommend?

Book Sale at Together Days: Do we want to do this? If so, when do we want to start collecting books? Storage? Sorting? Together Days? Do we all want to store 10 boxes of books at each of our homes? When is the date May 28, 29 and 31st, or June 5, 6 and 7th - anyone know? What date is our annual meeting? The 28th in May would be our regular 4th Thursday of the month meeting.

Children's Bookcase at City Hall - Angela Holmes, our City Clerk at City Hall in Westbrook, has suggested that the Friends have a spot for kids when the parents come into City hall. We need a small shelf, low for children to pick books from. Regina Rofe made a Motion that we provide a shelf and books to city hall, and Joan Austin has seconded the Motion to do this. Motion passed, and approved. Do we give away books there every month, or do the books stay there for all to use, and we just swop them out from time to time. Let's talk about it more. Anyone have a small shelf to donate?

Other Ideas for the Library: (Luke to ask other Librarians)

- Christmas Tree – Julie Peterson reports that the festival of Trees needs replacing, Children’s Books at City Hall – Rose and Angela, Art Hanging Gallery system to display Art and appropriate lighting, Telescope, Microscope, Cooking utensils:, cake pans, cookie cutters, Tools, Game console (play station or Wii or X-box), Instruments, or Other Ideas???

Other Fundraising: Restaurant night, Letter soliciting businesses, 5k fun walk/race – Baxter and Bridgeton library, or Trivia night.

NEXT MEETING: FEBRUARY 27th, 2020 - POTLUCK from 530 to 630 pm. Held in the kitchen, lower level, staff area. Staff invited to join. Eating 5:30 to 6:00, and business meeting 6 to 6:30. Bring a dish to share!