

Friends of the Town and Country Public Library

Minutes of March 16, 2017 meeting

Executive Vice President Joan Hansen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Attendance: Directors in attendance: Bill Grabarek, Robert Harford, Joan Hansen, Pat Schuberg. Directors absent: Lori Crimmins, Tania Miller. Friends Members present: Matt Miller, Dave Burroughs, Jeff and Carrie Walters, Al Guthke and Amy Szumny. Library Director Glenn Kahmann and Library Board President, Dave Burroughs in attendance.

Motion to approve minutes by Robert Harford and seconded by Bill Grabarek. All present approved minutes.

Treasurer, Bill Grabarek: Presented report on checking account balance. As of March 16th the checking account balance was \$2,003.75. He continued and presented a detailed Treasurer's report. Joan asked for a motion to approved report. Al Guthke moved to approve, Joan seconded, all present approved.

Committee reports:

Membership: Robert Harford. Currently there are 36 paid members, comprised of 12 seniors, 20 standard and 4 sponsoring members. Robert presented a list of lapsed members, requested everyone review to see if anyone can contract them to determine if previous membered want to be removed or if they want to re-up their membership. Robert has begun to send a welcome email to new members with the FOL brochure attached. Robert will begin to send an email reminder about a lapsed membership— with an opt-in message.

Hospitality: Joan Hansen. The ongoing coffee bar is held on Saturday morning generally from 10-noon. All are welcome to have a cup of coffee, a baked goodie, and good conversation.

Publicity: Joan Hansen. Since the local papers have reduced availability, Joan has requested access to the library's mail list for plant sale announcements. Glen agreed to this.

Fundraising: Joan Hansen.

Christmas Book Nook and Raffle. This year was the highest of previous years. In the 5-week holiday season, \$819.75 was raised. Joan and Tania Miller refilled the display 2x per day. Each item was displayed with a gift bow. Although this is a time consuming project to price and make sure it is filled, great success has been achieved! Thank you Joan and Tania for your gift of time and attention.

Plant Sale: This will be the 14th year! Once again we will have flowers from G&E Greenhouse, a local Elburn business. Prices will remain the same. Online ordering will begin April 1 until May 1. Last year 150 dozen plants and 56 baskets were sold from Thursday noon when the plants arrive until Saturday afternoon. Volunteers will be needed to help sell! Along with selling plants, is a raffle for a garden cart, and artwork donated by Val Pieroni.

“Page a Day Book Lover’s” Calendar 2018: The can only be purchased in complete lots of 30 units and receive free shipping. Calendars are provided to 25 homebound residents in Elburn. This allows for 5 calendars to be for sale at the front desk. It was agreed to keep the order at 30 units.

Book Sale during Elburn Days: After lengthy discussion including the following sales history it was determined to discontinue to offer a book sale. The sale requires a large volunteer base and is a significant amount of work to organize and set up. Less sales have been experienced due to less downtown activity now that the crafters have been moved to Lion’s Park. In addition, membership preview night has been lightly attended. The library director and library board president assured the friends they are supportive of discontinuing the sale.

Previous year’s sales:

2016	\$2,200
2015	\$2,648
2014	\$2,558
2013	\$2,741
2012	\$3,100

Additional conversation on what to do with donated books included enhancing the book nook for year-round revenue. Many area libraries have already discontinued their book sales.

Motion made by Bill Grabarek to discontinue book sale, Robert Harford seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Miscellaneous Donations have been made for the Gingerbread Workshop, Fox Valley Literacy Trivia Bee, and for the Dewey Dash. Dewey Dash will be held on April 9th beginning at 8:30 1K fun fun and 9:00 5K race.

Membership Night: Discussion was held on how to improve attendance at the membership night. This is a requirement to maintain the FOL 501c3 status. Since the book sale will be discontinued, the membership meeting in September will be critical. Ideas including having a pizza night, games for families, etc. Library uses ProPay for fees—can this be used for membership dues? Joan will check with Kathy.

Next meeting will be held May 18th after the plant sale.

Motion made to adjourn at 8:25 by Joan Hansen, seconded by Robert Harford. All approved.