

Friends of the Merrimack Public Library
October 30, 2023 meeting - 7:00 pm

In attendance: Debbe Walter, Friends president; Victoria Agnew, treasurer; Pauline Ducharme, director at large; Jennifer Jobin, board member; Michelle Nover, secretary; Yvette Courser, director Merrimack Public Library.

Minutes

The minutes from the September 25, 2023 meeting were submitted for approval
Victoria made a motion to accept the minutes
Pauline seconded the motion
Motion passed

Next Friends Meeting

Monday, November 27, 2023

Conflict of Interest forms still due from Claire and Danielle.

Treasurer Report

The financials were presented - ending balance \$18,553.56
We had previously approved the funding for the Erin Bowman appearance for \$1000.00
The funding for the Naticook camp summer scholarship is ready to pass along to the director of the camp. We had previously approved \$400 for this initiative.

Michelle made a motion to accept the current financials
Pauline seconded the motion
Motion passed

Staff Funding Requests

1. Erin Bowman lecture - funding previously approved by the Friends. Presentation was excellent - well presented, prepared and interesting. The attendees were thoroughly engaged.
2. Wreath sale - the wreaths will be hung up on Monday, November 6th - all bids will go through Facebook, since the elevator will be undergoing renovation. The feedback from the public has been for more non-Christmas styles.
3. Open mic December 4th - NaNoWrMo meeting. Participants will do readings - National Novel Writing Month. The Staff has requested door prizes - we will support NaNoWrMo mugs to be raffled off. After Yvette has purchased the amount of mugs needed for this event, Debbe and Michelle will wrap them up with hot chocolate and candy.

Debbe made a motion to use the \$100 not used for the October National Friends week raffle basket for the raffle mugs.
Michelle seconded the motion
Motion passed.

Director's Report

1. The Friends National Friends Week raffle drew lots and lots of entrants. A student won the gift basket - was a child of a past Merrimack Library employee. Very successful event.
2. Trunk or Treat - big success - was held indoors due to rain. All the "trunks" were spread around different areas of the library - lots of fun for all attendees. A good example of holding the event indoors in case of future inclement weather.
3. Elevator - renovation starting on November 15th. The building will be closed for the first week - most disruptive during this time - machinery will be removed - could be noisy and

potentially smelly. The staff will work on special projects during the closed time for patrons. All departments will be weeding out the collections. This time will provide a great opportunity for Staff to get to projects that have been put on the back burner.

Closed dates: Wednesday, November 15 through Friday, November 17
Open Saturday, November 18
Closed Monday, November 20 and Tuesday, November 21.
Open Wednesday November 22 for half day, as it is the day before Thanksgiving.
Closed for Thanksgiving holiday November 23 and Friday November 24.
Open Saturday, November 25th.

This project is expected to last approximately 5 weeks.

Trustee Report

1. Budget planning starts on Tuesday, November 6th
2. Strategic planning in motion - focus groups are scheduled for Wednesday, November 1st and 8th 6:00-8:00 pm — these two community meetings are designed to get community feedback about the Town of Merrimack - not necessarily about the library. A planner/consultant has been hired to take the Library through this entire process. Already 12 people signed up for the two groups. Yvette has invited the Friends to participate in these meetings, although other opportunities to give feedback to the consultant will be provided. The Trustees will be meeting with the consultant on November 16th. The plan should be completed in December.
3. The building projects are ongoing - the elevator being the most important at the moment

Community Outreach

The community picnic at the American Legion on October 1st went well, although it was not that well attended. We manned an information table, along with just a handful of other community organizations. The organizers of the event were very happy to have us participate. Hosted by the Michael LoVerme Foundation.

Ongoing

The NH Arts and Humanities sponsor a lecture series - Debbie will send the link around for us to take a look at the catalog offerings and make suggestions for future events.

Future event

Location to be decided - presentation by actress portraying Queen Elizabeth. Due to the elevator renovation, location might change. Yvette will make a determination and then advertise to the town.

Pauline made a motion to adjourn the meeting
Victoria seconded the motion
Meeting adjourned at 8:14 pm