

Friends of the Merrimack Public Library
February 26, 2024 meeting - 7:00 pm - Zoom Meeting

In attendance: Debbe Walter, Friends president; Victoria Agnew, Friends treasurer; Pauline Ducharme, director at large; Michelle Nover, Friends secretary; Yvette Couser, Director Merrimack Public Library

Minutes

The minutes from the January 29, 2024 meeting were submitted for approval
Victoria made a motion to accept the minutes
Pauline seconded the motion
Motion passed

Next Friends Meeting

Monday, March 25, 2024

Treasurer Report

The financials were presented - \$20,047.22 balance

Michelle made a motion to accept the financials
Debbe seconded the motion
Motion passed

Staff funding requests

No new staff funding requests were submitted

Director's and Trustee report

January – February Activity Highlights:

- The elevator refurbishment project is going smoothly and should be completed this week
- The retro-commissioning agent inspected all aspects of the HVAC system with his team on 2.7
- Yvette is working on an RFP (Request for Proposal) document with the Finance Department for the assessment and repair of the slate roof.
- We purchased matching bookcases to use on the main level for the Ongoing FMPL Book Sale and the Seed Library display. The matching shelves have been installed on the either side of the glass door/window overlooking the stairwell. They frame the glass nicely and are an aesthetic improvement.
- Jered painted an existing single shelf black – it is under the Library of Things window and holds two “card” boxes that we use to display the many puzzle and board game display cards.
- He also constructed a new, smaller FMPL donation box that has been mounted next to the book sale shelf.
- The GMILCS Board recommends that we move from Comprise to Square for managing card payments; Yvette is working with Janet, the Trustee Treasurer, to implement this before April 1st when the Comprise contract expires.
- The library's staff Safety Committee attended the Trustee Meeting on 2.20 to hear a presentation from Nashua Public Health about installing a Naloxbox in the library. Yvette and the Committee continue to research this to provide the Trustees with additional information.

- Now that the catalog overlay “Aspen” has been implemented, staff are ready to begin building out our website from Aspen. Several GMILCS libraries will also be switching their existing website to an Aspen build out. There is no additional cost to build out. Staff will work on this in addition to their regular duties and we expect the project to be completed by the end of the year.
- The children’s nonfiction collection has been reorganized using BISAC (Book Industry Standards and Communication) into neighborhoods. This follows a bookstore organizational system, which still groups books into subjects but without the numeric Dewey classification or Dewey subject headings, which can be a little dated.
- There are two openings on the Trustee Board; Janet Krupp’s term is up and Molly Mortimer’s 1 year term (completing Michael Drouin’s term) is also up. The filing period for candidates running for Town office is 2.21-3.1 at 5 pm.
- The Trustees purchased a two year subscription to Grant Station; Janet and Jen Jobin are searching for appropriate library grants.

Notes:

- SRP check to Matt/photo op needs to be scheduled or just give him the check
- Need a check for the FOL-approved sponsorship of Lindsay and her Puppet Pals event on 2.29 – invoice attached
- Library to be reimbursed for 165.44 for 3D filament containers purchase – invoice attached
- Did the Friends receive a book sale check from John Walsh? The Library did not.
- Barbara Tucker’s address to Debbe for a thank you letter to Barbara Tucker

NH Humanities selection - info from Stefanie to come regarding the upcoming presentations.

New Business

We received an email from Ken Helen - a guitarist with concert ideas. We watched a short YouTube example of his performances, and then started a discussion on future concert ideas. This will continue as an ongoing discussion.

Pauline made a motion to adjourn the meeting
 Victoria seconded the motion
 Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

Post Meeting addendum

On Thursday, March 29, 2024 Yvette sent an email with the flyer for the March 25th presentation that Reggie has put together. This is an author/creative writing workshop presented by local author and podcast host Bonnar Spring. Yvette asked if we would be interested in covering the presenter’s fee of \$200.

Via email, Victoria made a motion to support this expense.
 Via email, Michelle seconded the motion
 Via email, the motion was passed