

## **Meeting of the Friends of the Florida Public Library Minutes of October 21, 2019**

Meeting called to order by President Bob Scott @ 6:31 PM

Members Present: Bob Scott, Nancy Scott, Shirley Coughlin, Terri Gott, Ann Marie Kowalczyk, Mary McNally, Bob Persing, Madelyn Folino

### **Officers' Reports:**

**Secretary:** The group reviewed the minutes of the last meeting. Terri made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Mary. Motion passed.

**Treasurer:** Terri provided the report for September. The current balance is \$1,775.81. Bob accepted the report which will be filed for audit.

**Director:** Madelyn announced that it was National Friends of the Library week. Meg made some special goodies for all of us to enjoy at the meeting. The following items were then discussed:

- The six Focus Groups to discuss the 5 year long-range plan had just wrapped up. Mary represented the Friends at one meeting. In the future, an online survey might be used as an alternative to glean information from the public. Over time, it has been difficult to get people to participate, even though several invitations were extended. Madelyn distributed handouts given to attendees at the sessions. These listed all the items and services available, as well as a detailed fact sheet about the library, its staff, and its programs.
- The November/December program series starts this week. Specifically mentioned were:
  - Anthony Musso, author of "The Hidden Treasures of the Hudson Valley", will speak on Nov. 13th. History buffs will surely enjoy this session.
  - The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Tellebration – "Between Two Rivers" will be held on Nov.23<sup>rd</sup>. Special guest, author Sue Gardner, will be in attendance.
  - Marie will have a "Chocolate" program at the November Friends meeting.
  - Readers are needed for the "Holiday Read Aloud" coming up on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>. Classic holiday stories are read to children.
- The "Great Give Back" food drive was a success, particularly for items such as cereal and paper towels. The drive runs through the end of the month, with coffee and spices still in demand.
- The Poetry Café held in October was a big hit. Soup and sandwiches were served. Cash was collected for the "Great Give Back".
- New Funding Requests:
  - \$219 for Barron Angell's registration for the upcoming NYLA conference.
  - Help in paying for two replacement picnic tables - total cost of \$2,000.
  - Renewal of the license for the Ancestry Data Base at a cost of \$1,300. The license ends in December. Usage has averaged \$2 per search.

- A “Museum Passes” usage report was tabulated for the year as requested by the Friends. Numbers represent the number of passes, not the number of people using the pass. Results showed: Intrepid (37), Storm King (36), followed by Boscobel, Bethel Woods, Hudson Highlands, Empire Pass, and the Natural History Museum, respectively. Note that the Empire Pass and the Natural History Museum passes have only been available for a couple of months. Bethel Woods passes have been available since the summer.

Vice President: Shirley encouraged all to help with the upcoming used book sale.

President: None

Trustee: Nancy was on vacation, so she was unable to attend the last meeting. Only four members were present. Hence, the meeting was short.

**Old Business:**

Bob led the discussion regarding the following items:

- New funding requests – Since the current funds are low, Bob suggested that we approve the \$219, but table the other requests until next month, when we will have more member renewals and the used book sale funds. Terri made a motion that was seconded by Nancy. The motion passed.
- The OLA Friends Gathering was held in Goshen on Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>. Annette, Martha, and Ron represented Florida. Feedback was very positive.
- Nancy requested reimbursement for the postage for postcards sent regarding membership renewal and used book sale help, as well as for pizza and soda for volunteers setting up on Thursday night prior to the sale. Terri made a motion for reimbursement that was seconded by Ann Marie. Motion passed.
- Regarding the used book sale, Nancy stated that ads were placed in the Warwick Dispatch, Warwick Advertiser, and the Times Herald Record. Anyone who wanted to display a sign in his/her yard could pick one up at the Scotts’ house. Bake sale items are needed and can be dropped off at the senior center Friday evening or Saturday morning. Extra hand carts are needed for Thursday evening.

**New Business:** None

**Open Discussion Items:** None

Terri made a motion to adjourn at 7:07, seconded by Shirley. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted, Ann Marie Kowalczyk, Secretary