

## **Meeting of the Friends of the Florida Public Library Minutes of November 18, 2019**

Meeting called to order by President Bob Scott @ 6:07 PM

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

### **Officers' Reports:**

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

**Treasurer:** The October Treasurer's report was reviewed. The current balance increased to \$3,333.98, thanks in part to membership dues and a successful used book sale. Bob accepted the report which will be filed for audit. Terri prepared another report that outlined the individual dollar components of the book/bake sale. Overall, the event netted \$1,093.87.

**Director:** Madelyn discussed the following items:

- The late fall programs will be wrapping up in December.
- The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Tellebration – “Between Two Rivers” will be held on Saturday, Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>, with pie being served to all guests.
- On Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>, at 1 p.m., the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Readaloud will take place. “The Gift of the Magi” will be read, as suggested by Mary McNally.
- The library (Staff, Trustees, and Friends) has decided to adopt a family, identified through the Florida Community Food Pantry, for Christmas. A list of specific needs has been prepared. There is a deadline of December 11<sup>th</sup> for contributions. (Secretary “side note”: Bob sent an email to all Friends on 11/25 with the item list.)
- The library is a member of the Florida Chamber of Commerce. A similar collection of items is being taken up for the School of Nurses. Dues for the Chamber of Commerce are rising from \$35 to \$50 per year. Bob originally joined the chamber as a Friends' member, but has since maintained a seat as an individual.
- Meg returned from the NYLA conference. She attended workshops that focused on Friends' issues. A report will be written up. One of the topics included “Friends' Success through Strategic Planning”. The primary issue that Friends' groups across the state are experiencing is the lack of volunteers.
- Funding Requests:
  - The replacement picnic tables (2) have been put together. There was money in the library budget. The Friends could contribute, if so desired.
  - The license for the Ancestry Data Base runs out in November. Cost of renewal is \$1300.
  - The Empire Pass runs out at the end of the year.

Vice President: No report at this time

President: No report at this time

Trustee: Nancy stated that the yearly audit of the library has been completed successfully. A representative of the company will answer any questions on the report at the December board meeting. Deborah Slesinski was appointed Treasurer of the library, after her predecessor moved out of the area. One of her main tasks involves moving collected tax monies into various accounts so as to cover expenses and maximize additional income. Madelyn reviewed bill payment procedures.

**Old Business:** Bob led the discussion regarding the following items:

- Bob mentioned that the library program featuring Anthony Musso earlier this month was very interesting and drew a big crowd.
- New funding requests – Shirley made a motion to pay for the license renewal of the Ancestry Data Base. Mary F. seconded the motion. The motion passed. Madelyn said that Barron would conduct a class to use the data base at the end of January. She wondered if Sunday would work. The rest of the requests were tabled until next month.

**New Business:**

- Bob suggested that we consider having “Specialized Used Book Sales”, since we have an excess of certain types of books – currently Hard Cover Fiction and Cookbooks. Ideas discussed include: 1-Move books on Friday, sell on Saturday, and return books Saturday evening; 2-Have a sale on the library deck in April; 3-Publicize quickly; 4-Donate excess fiction to some organization, 5-Provide bags of a uniform size to fill (maybe the totes); 6-Charge \$.50/book; 7-Charge by the bag. Please continue to brainstorm and make any ideas known to the group.
- Nancy passed around a NY Public Library brochure that showed multiple tiers of membership for Friends and the corresponding benefits for each tier. “Food for thought” to be applied to our organization.

**Open Discussion Items:**

- Bob suggested to Marie that a chocolate program be held at the Friends’ meeting in February around Valentine’s Day.
- At our Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, 6 p.m., we will hold the annual cookie swap. Join us!

Bob P. made a motion to adjourn at 6:52, seconded by Nancy. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted, Ann Marie Kowalczyk, Secretary