Meeting of the Friends of the Florida Public Library  
Minutes of August 9, 2021

Meeting called to order by President Bob Scott @ 6:30 PM

Members Present: Bob Scott, Nancy Scott, Shirley Coughlin, Mary McNally, Terri Gott, Meg Sgombick, Diane Arcieri, Karen Thomas, Ann Marie Kowalczyk

Officers’ Reports:
President: Bob expressed how extremely pleased he was with all of the help that turned out for our recent used book sale.

Vice President: Shirley said “kudos to all who helped with the used book sale”.

Treasurer: Terri reviewed the monthly activity for July, 2021. The ending balance was $1,674.23. Bob accepted the July report, which will be filed for audit. Terri provided a report itemizing the debits and credits for the used book sale. The net profit was $1,967.58, and will appear in the August activity report.

Director: Meg presented the following items:
- A successful Summer Reading Program wrapped up at the end of July.
- August is typically a slow month at the library.
- Thanks to all who helped with the used book sale.
- Meg updated the Friends’ page on the library web site.
- A copy of the NYLA Friends of Libraries Section (FLS) newsletter was handed out. FLS creates a network to connect and inspire Friends’ groups throughout the New York library community. Meg and the library are currently members of FLS, and consider the organization to be a great resource for such things as fundraising ideas. FLS membership runs for a calendar year, and costs $50 per organization. The next FLS Connections Zoom meeting is on 9/13. A raffle is being held for free membership for the next year. Meg has submitted our Friends’ group in the raffle. Bob, as well as others in attendance, thought it might be a good idea for our group to consider joining. Meg will bring a membership form to our next meeting.

Trustee: Per Diane and Nancy, the Trustee by-laws were approved with minor changes recommended by RCLS. NY State Assemblyman Karl Brabenec has secured a grant of $25,000 from the state for the library, to be used as needed. An architect is being sought to provide an overview of the library’s size.

Correspondence: None to report.
Old Business:

- The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed by the group. Nancy made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Terri. Motion passed.
- Recent Book Sale – The great crowd in a buying mood, the generous donations of used books, and the numerous, hard-working volunteers resulted in a successful book sale. At Bob’s request, Terri volunteered to contact Nick Conklin and thank him for donating his parents’ vast book collection. Mary asked about the status of the plate collection that had been in previous sales. The status was unknown. Meg oversaw the re-stocking of leftover books in the basement. Thanks again to the energetic, strong young men and women who assisted her!
- FFPL By-laws – Meg reviewed the second round of changes proposed by the committee. Everyone agreed to vote on the final document. Diane made a motion to approve the revised set. Terri seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Meg will provide a clean copy to be officially signed at the next meeting.
- Audit of Treasury Reports/Activity – Audit Committee members, Diane and Nancy, met and reviewed all appropriate documentation. The register was signed, indicating that the audit was completed. Terri asked that an audit be done regularly. Bob said that an audit should take place whenever a new treasurer takes office. Thanks to the committee!
- Status of 501(c)(3) Project – Per Diane, NYLA is willing to provide guidance on how to proceed with this effort. She and Meg will work with them.

New Business:

- There are no new funding requests.
- Meeting dates are set for September 14 and October 12.
- Per Meg, patron use of the “Library of Things” collection is really taking off. People are borrowing pruners and party games, to name a few items. New tents have been purchased for patrons’ use.
- Bob will resume adding the “Forget Me Nots” library announcements to future agendas.

Open Discussion Items:

- A suggestion was made to hold the next used book sale on 9/30 – 10/3.
- Nancy said that notification postcards will be sent out to all members when the next used book sale date is finalized.
- Additional suggestions, including posting flyers in stores and having the Mayor mention the sale in his newspaper column, were made.

Terri made a motion to adjourn at 7:25 PM, seconded by Karen. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted, Ann Marie Kowalczyk, Secretary