

Friends of the West Haven Library – Meeting Minutes: 1/7/20

In attendance: Pat Donnelly, Catherine Bushman, Alan Olenick, Maureen Ulsamer, Heather Westbrook, Ben Martin, Kathy St. Clair, Joe Weber, Joan Dorfer, Angela Invernale

- No Treasurer's Report because we are still looking for a replacement for Gert Beckwith.
- Friends agree that Maureen will be Public Secretary instead of Joe, with Catherine handling more formal correspondence. For example, Walmart made a \$1000 donation to Friends, and Catherine sent the thank-you. More personal correspondence such as the cards that were sent to Pat and Dietrich will be handled by Maureen. Friends decided to send get well card to Patti GaNun.
- Joe, Ray, and Kathy spent over 2 hours sorting books for the sale—got a lot done and will resume soon but could use some more hands. Heather and Pat spent an hour sorting, Maureen and Pat did also. Alan suggests a consistent schedule for sorting so we can recruit volunteers (possibly teen volunteers as well, as long as an adult is there for supervision). Heather is free some Saturdays and Pat is free most afternoons—need times to be consistent. Joe/Ray can send Catherine or Angela anything they want to be submitted to the Voice (requests for volunteers, donations, etc). Alan needs to receive it via email by the Friday before in order to get it into the following week's Voice.
- Membership/Director's Report (C. Bushman): One new lifetime membership (\$150) and one renewal; \$1367 since Jan 2019. Mini golf fundraiser to be held in April. Three \$100 sponsors for Elm City Girls' Choir fundraiser being held until we know what is happening with a venue. WHHS backed out as a venue so date/times of fundraiser are to be determined. Alan suggests a subcommittee to meet another day to focus on this issue specifically. Public hearings on the mayor's budget coming up. Library hopes to rally community support, show up in black t-shirts, advocate for the library. Email blast will be sent out when we have more info.
- President's Report (P. Donnelly): Trivia night still planned for spring—JR's on Campbell Ave, possibly with the people that do trivia at Duffy's. Maureen stepped down as cosigner. Friends accepted Alan's offer to be cosigner until a Treasurer is elected. Regional meeting of Friends of CT Libraries will take place at Willoughby Wallace library in Stony Creek on Jan 22nd. Museum passes to be reviewed: Peabody closing for 3 years; look into new places for passes?
- Ben suggests a Paypal account to be made for the Friends, allowing for easier donations on the website and potentially accepting digital payment during book sales. A percentage would be taken during transfer of funds. Maureen noted options she's seen to cover fees when donating. Many people no longer carry cash. Memo line description required for any Paypal interactions. Ben and Alan will explore options.
- Funding request: Children's department to host *Take Your Child to the Library Day* including Nappy's Puppets & Sing-a-long. CT Humanities will pay for 75% of the \$250 fee; Friends agreed to pay \$62.50 to CT Humanities to supplement cost of program. Unanimously approved.
- Annual Volunteer Luncheon to be scheduled during West Haven school vacation (April 10th-17th)

- Spring book sale to be held on Saturday April 25th; the basement has been reserved all-day for April 23rd and 24th for setup.

Next meeting: February 4th, 2020 at 6:00pm—Main Branch—Connie Sacco Room

****Snow date 2/11/20**