

Friends of the West Haven Library - Meeting Minutes - 3/3/20

In attendance: Colleen Bailie, Catherine Bushman, Alan Olenick, Pat Donnelly, Joan Dorfer, Kathy and Ray St. Clair, Ben Martin, Kym Powe, Angela Invernale

- Elm City Girls' Choir fundraiser raised a total of \$1078.92 (\$725 from sponsors and \$353.92 from tickets). \$176.96 went to the choir so Friends earned a total of \$892
- Membership: 49 members; \$1212 raised
 - Pro-library buttons to be made (perhaps teen volunteers can help) and can be sold at table/events such as the Apple Festival
 - New Lifetime Membership option through Paypal for \$150. Important to note that Paypal takes a fee so this amounts to closer to \$145, but it most likely more than we would have gotten without the online donation/membership option
- Director's Report:
 - No updates on LP branch; the library assessment organization may want to have a discussion
 - Staff-wise we are doing well
 - Mini-Golf fundraiser scheduled for April 4th; perhaps the Friends can sponsor a hole like last year
 - Rotary Auction paddle raise; Colleen was able to choose the Friends as the charitable organization to receive the proceeds. The Friends should have a strong presence at the auction.
 - Annual Appeal has gone out and we are making buttons and working with EveryLibrary to advocate for the WHPL
- Museum/Activity passes: Usage has been down, we need to promote and inform patrons of what we offer.
 - **\$175** approved by the Friends to renew Discovery Museum pass
 - Since Peabody museum is closing for the next 3 years, can that money be reinvested elsewhere?
- Annual Volunteer luncheon: Still waiting on list of LP branch volunteers but invites are ready to go out with an RSVP date of April 3rd; Sponsors and board members to be invited; Possibly shop at Walmart since they are a sponsor.
- Pat plans to email Bridgeport's Family Guidance Center as they may pick up unsold children's books after the book sale.
- Catherine has two different ads to send to Alan for the WH Voice, specifying April 15th as the cutoff date for book sale donations. Mike (custodian) can sift through donations to pull any dirty or damaged books.
- Friends unanimously decided that the long table setup stinks and we will not do that anymore! :)
- Colleen is looking into donation software that keeps track of donations and can help avoid "double dipping". Cost is about \$2000 per year, of which the Friends could hopefully provide \$500/yr

- Can two bank accounts occupy this software?
- Can we use this to accept credit cards during book sales?
- Bags for the book sale need to be figured out: Restaurant Depot for cheap “Thank You” plastic bags; perhaps someone would be willing to donate sturdier bags--ShopRite, Trader Joe’s, Aldi’s
- Funding Requests:
 - Friends approved **\$75** for Fun with Fossils program at Ora Mason
 - Friends approved **\$550** for Summer Reading performer, Al deCant
 - Friends approved **\$500** to purchase table at Rotary Auction
 - Members of the Friends who wish to attend can pay \$25 back to the Friends for a seat at the table (6-10 people)
 - Friends approved **\$100** for half page ad thanking the Rotary and advertising the Friends
- The following nominations of officer positions (to go into effect May 1st) have been approved by the Friends, with an official vote to be held during our next meeting in April. Anyone currently serving an open position may continue to do so until the vote is held.
 - Alan Olenick will replace Pat Donnelly as President of the Friends
 - Pat will stay on as our VIA and FOCL representative
 - Vice President of Special Events: Kym Powe
 - Vice President of Public Relations: *position unfilled*
 - Vice President of Membership: Catherine Bushman
 - Secretary: Angela Invernale
 - Secretary for Correspondence: *position unfilled* (perhaps ask Maureen Ulsamer if she’s interested)
 - Treasurer: Bill Heffernan
 - Assistant Treasurer: Ben Martin
 - Book Sale Co-Chairs: Joe Weber and Ray St. Clair
 - Members at Large: Kathy St. Clair to be an officer of the Friends’ board