**Friends of the Library – Meeting Minutes 2/1/22**

In attendance: Colleen Bailie, Alan Olenick, Bill Heffernan, Patti GaNun, Sue Bonci, Maureen Ulsamer, Kym Powe, Doug Daniels, Pat Donnelly, Christine Diehl, Michael Invernale, Heather Westbrook, Peter Cappuccia, Angela Invernale

Motion from Patti to approve last month’s minute, seconded by Catherine. Minutes approved.

President’s Report: We’ve been reaching out to patrons through the library’s constant contact list. Got about half way through (7000 emails) but encountered issues of being thought to be spam. However, the Friends have received 9 new memberships through Paypal alone since the email campaign began.

Director’s Report: Due to the uptick in COVID we have scaled back on in person programming, hoping to get back to it in March if we can do so safely. Masked are once again required in the library but we still do not require appointments. This year’s budget has been submitted. Allingtown library branch is still in the works with some interest being shown in the project. There was an article in the NH register about the project. Christine: some concern from a comment in the article regarding lack of sidewalks in the area and accessibility. Not ideal, but we will be talking to the city about putting sidewalks in and the building will be on the bus route. It is also very close to schools where buses could potentially drop kids off but we’re still a long way away from this. The Board is looking to put together a capital campaign committee. Patti may have some names and insight regarding this. Looking to potentially hire someone to help with campaign. Books are being challenged in school libraries once again with intent to ban. Library policies have been updated regarding this and staff has been trained on what to do if we receive complaints about a book.

Membership Report: 13 new members, 119 in total. $300 in new memberships, total $1428.22

Treasurer’s Report: Read and approved.

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* Maureen: Cards sent out in 2021, totaling 10: mostly sympathy, some thank you, good luck, well wishes.
* We did not renew with Network for Good, however any money we get from Facebook fundraisers will come through them.
* Booksalefinder still sends emails asking when our sale will be—still TBD
* No new funding request, but expect to see Summer Reading requests soon
* (Catherine) Request to allot $100 for the purchase of boxes to help sorting book sale materials, appx 50 boxes. Kym moves to approve, multiple seconds.
* (Patti) Suggestion to think of any other book sale related things we may need—folding tables, non-slip adhesive for book ends, etc—to price check and discuss at March’s meeting.
  + Walmart has always been a big support, maybe we can reach out to them? We should also definitely reach out before the next book sale to see if they will donate bags.
* Fundraising ideas (all dependent on COVID numbers)
  + Another restaurant fundraiser like the Texas Roadhouse fundraiser we did years ago, Chipotle and On the Border offers similar fundraisers. Texas Roadhouse also does Rib Rally fundraisers. These are always good to have in our back pocket as they are low-effort; we just need sufficient time to advertise.
* Trivia. The ever-elusive trivia. It’s time to start planning the logistics so we can hopefully finally have a trivia night in the spring/early summer. Possible locations are Duffy’s and Savin Rock Roasting company (now named Beef & Brew Pub). Some categories can be book related or West Haven related.
* We should also start thinking about the Staff/Volunteer appreciate luncheon. Right now, that many people would be risky but as soon as we can safely hold the luncheon, we should.
* Food trucks. People like food trucks. If we hold an event that can justify the cost of renting one, maybe we can do it sometime in the future.