

Friends of Onondaga Free Library  
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors  
January 3, 2018

**PRESENT:**

Directors: Anne Andrianos, Mary Minafri-Girolamo, Jeanette Nels, Susan Parry and Donna Zeolla

Absent: Dan Andrianos and George Bain

Members: Kathy DeSanctis, Mary Beth Roach, CJ Sturdevant, Mary Taylor and John Thornton

Director: Susan Morgan

The meeting was opened at 6:30 by Anne A. Introductions were made since we did not meet in December due to the weather. We are very happy to see new faces returning to our meeting. The November minutes were corrected as follows: John Thornton was present. A motion to accept the corrected minutes was made by Jeanette N., seconded by Mary M. and approved. The Treasurer's report was presented by Anne A. We have a balance of over \$11,500.00. We had terrific fundraisers in 2017 and hope to keep the momentum going in 2018.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Susan M.

Susan M. thanked us for our hard work and continued support of the library. We were able to fund several wish list items, librarian requests and legacy support (continued support of programs such as Lucky Day Books).

Susan M. congratulated Anne A. on her presentation to a packed audience at NYLA.

OFL circulated over a quarter million items in 2017. This is up from 215,000 in 2016. This does not include electronic items, which brings the number to 266,867 items. This is quite an accomplishment and shows that reading is not a dying art!

Kori Gerbig will be onboard on January 22 as the new Youth Services Specialist to replace Bette Tucker who retired in December. She came to us from Manlius and is an adjunct professor at SU's School of Information Studies. Kori G. is a librarian who wanted to work part time so this is the perfect fit for her and OFL.

Susan M. presented the wish list:

\$1,500.00 for Fast Flicks

\$2,000.00 for Lucky Day Books

\$2,000.00 for e-books

\$200.00 for the adult summer reading program

\$300.00 for unique tax preparation forms as requested by patrons. The library staff will be trained on how to find and print these forms. The patrons will not be charged for printing. The staff cannot offer tax advice but will only find and print the forms.

Mary M. motioned that we give the library \$6,000.00 to support this wish list. This was seconded by Jeanette N. and approved.

The seating for the foyer was discussed. Susan M. has contacted SOE and their benches seem expensive. CJ S. will contact a local woodworker to see what he would charge. We need to decide on a size for the bench or if several smaller units would work better. The seating must be moveable as that area is used at various times of the year.

We will look into a puzzle table, but before we purchase it, we will see what the interest is in puzzles. John T. suggested puzzle trays because they can easily be stored when not in use. Susan M. will talk with the director of the Marcellus Library to see what they use and how popular puzzles are. CJ S. suggested organizing a puzzle group.

**MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN:** Anne

Our membership campaign has raised over \$3,300.00 so far. Reminder notices and thank you notes will be sent in January. There was discussion about sending thank you notes via e-mail. We do have about 50% of our members e-mail addresses so we will try to emphasize this in our brochures and letters in hopes that we have more members who will allow us to contact them by e-mail. A business appeal will go out in February. We hope to have PayPal up and running by spring. The problem lies with the levels of membership and the PayPal

program. CJ S. just set up PayPal for her non-profit along with a Facebook page with quick success. She may be able to help us.

FESTIVAL OF TREES: Mary M.

Our profit was \$1,399.80. Mary M. was able to keep costs down by buying trees on sale. There were lots of great trees - lottery and SU were the most popular themes this year. She had lots of help setting them up and lots of enthusiastic winners. All thank you notes have been sent. This was the best festival ever!

NEW BUSINESS:

The Chili, Stew and Soup cook off is January 28. Participants can set up at 1PM, judging at 2 and public tasting at 3. We need to have people to set up, serve and clean up. Several people volunteered. We are looking for judges - possibly one being a local celebrity. John T. will run a 50-50 drawing.

The library has had requests from patrons to drop off books for a book sale. We briefly discussed a spring book sale. St. Michael's is having one at the end of March. If we do one in May we need to decide if we want to do geraniums at the same time. Anne A. will sit down with Chantal to see if there is a block of time that we can use the community room.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08. Our next meeting will be February 7 at 7PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Parry, Secretary