

Friends of Onondaga Free Library
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
August 4, 2021

PRESENT:

Directors: Barbara Leigh Susan Parry, Mary Beth Roach, Mary Taylor and John Thornton

Absent: George Bain, Mary Buckout, Pamela McLaughlin and Donna Zeolla

Library Staff: Susan Morgan

Members: Joanne Basta, Deb Carey, Kathy DeSanctis and Laura Maynard

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The meeting was opened at 7:00PM. We welcomed Laura and Joanne to our group.
- There has been a request from a person who needs community service hours. After discussion we felt that we were not prepared to take on this task. Mary Beth R. will respond back.
- Mary Beth R. received the resignation of Mary Buckout. If anyone knows someone willing to be on the Board please let her know.
- The minutes for July were read online. Barb L. made a motion to accept them, seconded by John T. and approved.

TREASURERS REPORT: Mary Beth R.

- George B. sent his report via e-mail. We have \$7720.50 in the checking account. Our liability insurance has gone up. George B. is looking into other options. Kathy D. wondered if we could check with other groups to see what they are paying for insurance.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Susan M.

- We were able to repurchase the bond that we used for the renovation and addition to the library. This will save us around \$300,000.00 in interest. Our FITCH rating also jumped up two place thanks to the fiduciary stewardship of the Board of Trustees and 5 years of great audits.
- In July we circulated about 21,000. physical items - this does not include electronic items - and there were 6300 in person visits.
- The parks programs are very well received. Thank you to Friends for participating. Almost all the books we put aside are gone. Kathy D. and Barb L. mentioned how much fun they are having at these programs. There is a demand for board books and picture books so we will keep an eye out for these at the book sale. Storytime will still be outdoors in September. The Teen programs are doing great, too.
- The Gannon's ice cream social is scheduled for Saturday, August 14 from 2:00-3:30.

MEMBERSHIP: Kathy D.

- Our membership year runs from September 1 through August 31. We will meet on August 26 at 9AM to get the membership appeal out. The brochures and letters are printed and the envelopes are addressed.
- Mark is thrilled that we have a new database manager - Elizabeth Costello. She is a long time Friend and has lots of data entry experience. Mark and Kathy have met with her and started the training. Many thanks to Elizabeth for stepping up.

BOOK SALE: Sue P.

- We had to change the dates for the sale due to a conflict with the Community Room. We will be accepting donations Monday, September 13 through noon Thursday, September 16. The preview sale will be Thursday from 5:30-8:00, Friday 10:00-4:30 and Saturday 10:00-3:00 with the bag/box sale beginning at noon.
- We discussed sending postcards and decided to try an e-mail blast instead. Members will be able to print their discount coupon.

- Sue P. called the Town to see if they could pick up the leftovers on Monday. Because of large item pick up they would not be able to be there Monday but we will see if we can arrange for a different day.

LITTLE LIBRARY: Mary T.

- Whenever Mary T. goes to fill the Little Library she has found religious pamphlets which she removes. Mary Beth R. has made a sticker telling patrons how the little library works and that no pamphlets of any kind can be inserted.
- Mary Beth R. has contacted Syracuse Signage Systems to begin work on the plaque noting that this library is maintained by Friends. It will be installed by Syracuse Signage Systems. This plaque will be free with a line stating that Syracuse Signage Systems donated it.

9-11 EVENTS UPDATE: Mary Beth R. and Deb C.

- Mary Beth R. had put together a timetable for the Remembrance Ceremony beginning at 8:40 on Saturday 9-11. She is still fine tuning a few of the participants.
- Deb C. has met with Chantal Rothermel and designed a half page tear off with two themes - Remembering 9-11... and I Remember 9-11 Because ... these will be dropped off in a box made especially for this event on the Friends Corner and, after being vetted, placed in various locations in the library. Names will be optional on the entry. These remembrances will be left up for the month of September.
- Due to other Veterans events we will not hold a veterans benefit gathering. Barb L. suggested using part of the Friends Corner to highlight a different charity monthly. We could get informational brochures from groups and just put them in a holder.

COFFEE, CRAFTS AND CONVERSATION: Mary Beth R.

- This program ran on Thursday mornings until COVID struck. There was a dedicated core group and often patrons just stopped to see what was going on. Jeanette Nels and Anne Andrianos made the coffee and cleaned up afterwards. Both go South in the winter so we would need volunteers to fill in while they are away. There is a bit over \$50.00 in the coffee fund. Often participants would donate money for coffee. We will start the program again on September 19 at 9:30 and revisit it when the coffee funds run out or we need someone to host.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, September 1 at 7:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Parry, Secretary