

FRIENDS OF BETHLEHEM PUBLIC LIBRARY Minutes of meeting held March 2, 2023

Board Members present: Hilary Veilleux, Norma St. John, Kay Kerr, Allegra Wright, Mark Considine, Estelle LaFleur

Friends Members present: Connie Johnson

Librarian present: Laura Clerkin

Meeting called to order 5:30pm.

December 1, 2022 FOBPL minutes: Norma motioned to accept the minutes as edited, seconded by Connie. All in favor.

Treasurer's report: The CD current balance \$8,772.07, checking account current balance \$9,400.15, for a total of \$18,172.22. Norma closed out the CD and began a new one with a better interest rate. The Amazon Smile Program ended and the last check for that was \$11.23.

Allegra motioned to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Kay. All in favor.

Old Business

PayPal - Norma and Chelsey haven't had a chance to meet to get the PayPal account finalized. The goal is to have everything set up by the end of May so it can be used for the Summer Concerts.

Follow up Christmas Party December 3, 2022 – Attendance was higher than in prior years with 141 people: 63 adults and 78 children. The attendance was higher than in previous years. All crafts and cookies were used. Everyone was happy going through the stations. There were 10 volunteers, and all were needed.

Eclipse glasses - Laura attended the meeting at the Colonial and how to market the event. The main take away was to make sure that the correct glasses were ordered. Laura found an organization, StarNetLibraries.org, who is giving glasses to libraries for free. Laura has put in a request for the minimum amount of 500 pair of glasses and is waiting to hear if we are accepted for the donation. If not, she will order 150 pair of glasses for approximately \$250.00. The eclipse is April 9, 2024. T-shirts will be discussed at a future meeting.

Follow up Gingerbread houses December 2022 - There were nine submissions. The winner was the McGrath Family. The Miscio Family won the People's Choice Award. There were seven submissions from the fourth grade at BES who worked in pairs. Fourteen children received a gift certificate for the Legacy Used Book Store.

New Business

Pollinator/perennial garden 2023 - Karen Pearson has a pollinator/perennial garden and will donate plants for the library pollinator garden. This will be worked on in the spring.

New programs for 2023 - The summer reading theme is All Together Now. Laura has been working on programming. One possibility is for the children to plant some annuals in the library pollinator garden during the week of July 4th if the Friends agree. Details will be ironed out later.

Summer Program finale from Bright Star Theater will offer Aesop's Fables at a cost of \$820.00 which includes travel expenses. Norma motioned to pay the fee for Bright Star Theater for the August 1st finale and the ice cream. Kay seconded. All in motion.

Bake Sale March 14th during voting at Town Hall - Norma will run the event. Hilary is working on getting volunteers to staff the table and donate baked goods. Hilary hasn't gotten responses from the email that was sent out. Norma will set up the tables on Monday, March 13th at Town Hall from 4:00pm to 5:00pm if anyone wants to bring donated items directly there. Folks may also bring donations to the library on Monday from 1:00pm to 7:00pm, or Tuesday morning.

Thank you letter to NH Charitable Foundation - Hilary sent a thank you for the \$1,000.00 donation.

Connie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Norma. Meeting adjourned 6:18pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, April 6, 2023 at 5:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Estelle Lafleur