

Friends of Kennebunk Free Library

Draft Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2024 (Zoom)

Attending: Risa Oganessoff Heersche, Peg Nelson, Diana Rush, Dianne Napolitano, Liz Hamel, Jim Perry, Laura Dauphinais, Sarah Lucchesi, Deb Redding-Sampson (recorder) and staff members Michelle Conners (Director), Allison Atkins (Assistant Director), Anita Randall (Development Director)

Risa introduced herself and welcomed the group.

Minutes of January 8, 2024, were discussed and approved (Peg, Diana)

OLD BUSINESS

Book Sorting Committee Update: Peg shared that they are double scanning donated books now (for Better World Books and Giddyworm) and are pleasantly surprised that BWB is taking a good share of them. Scanning is not taking too much extra work. Donations are minimal right now, so they are scanning additional books (NF) and some meet BWB criteria.

Kids and YA books are sorted and plentiful. Thanks to all the sorters.

Membership Update: To date there are 38 current members, which is about standard for this time of year. Good news is that restructuring of membership options has increased revenue—averaging \$25 per person.

May Day Booksale: Peg reported a great response by volunteers for coverage of set-up and day of sale; YA and kids' books area will be reconfigured as some benches are gone. **Michelle or Allison will work with Peg** on options. **Pricing will be as follows: Adult hardcovers \$2/ paperback \$1; YA and kids' books 4 for \$1; DVDs 4 / \$1; puzzles \$1.**

Note: Michelle will be away on May Day (graduating from her PhD program!) but will help plan ahead of time. Maria will be on site by 7 am.

May Day Parade: Deb and Michelle will check with last year's volunteer participants and **Laura** will ask Trustees; participation will depend on availability of marchers.

NEW BUSINESS

Frame and Glass Purchase: Friends approved \$570 expenditure (Deb/Peg) to reframe only known 1906 architectural drawing of the original library. Includes museum quality glass and acid free matting. The rendering is by Franklin Hutchins and has sun damage from years of hanging above the circulation desk. If any further restoration can be done, we will be notified; thanks to staffer Kate for her research on options.

Library Updates:

- **Board retreat** is this Thursday focusing on strategic planning
- **Library Race** prep is ramping up, sponsorships coming in, registration open
- **KFL auction** prep is also underway, Friends asked to consider a gift basket/gift cards donation again (Friends of the Community-themed?). **Deb** will assist on getting donations—deadline end of May
- **Annual Appeal** mailing about to launch, Sarah will send out sign-up for help
- **KFL is soooooo busy!** 200 people today for eclipse event, lots of participants for all programs, use of KFL during power outages, lots of people hanging out
- **New furniture** is in and well received
- **This is National Library Week**—stop in and thank them for all their hard work!
- **Michelle** shared that she is graduating May 4 and announced her candidacy for House District 136 come November (but not leaving KFL!)

Week of the Young Child: Friends annually support children’s programming for WOYC, and this year voted (Deb, Risa) to approve the funds be used in conjunction with Faerie Festival events, per Maria’s request

Leadership: we are looking for 2 -4 people to take on leadership roles for the coming year and will be reaching out to the membership. Laura suggested an info session.

2024 Dates

May Day Book Sale – Saturday, May 4th

Blueberry Festival Book Sale – late July, TBD

Seashore Trolley Museum Ice Cream Social – Wednesday, July 31st (**Deb and Laura** to organize, **Deb, Diana, Risa and Laura** on board already)

HarvestFest Book Sale – Early to mid-October, TBD