

## Friends of Kennebunk Free Library

### Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2023

**Friends in Attendance:** Donna Gomez, Peg Nelson, Risa Oganessoff Heersche, Laura Dauphinas, Jim Perry, Diana Rush, Joan Carroll, Linda DeFelice, Andrea Carey (via Zoom), Dan Riggall, Jean Whitney, Kat Boucher, Deb Redding-Sampson (recorder for meeting)

**Staff in Attendance:** Michelle Conners (director), Allison Atkins (assistant director), Anita Randall (development director)

**Meeting Minutes** of September 11, 2023, were accepted unanimously (Peg, Joan)

#### OLD BUSINESS

**2024 Leadership** will circulate among Deb, Donna, Risa, and Peg with the goal to identify new leaders ASAP for 2025. Risa and Peg will stay on as liaisons to the trustees, and Peg will chair the book sorting committee another year.

**Octoberfest Book Sale** brought in \$897.50

**Book Sorting Report** from Peg showed a total sale of \$4673.29 for 2022, and total sale (as of 11/6/23) of \$4847.65 raised through book sales, donations, and Giddyworm (reselling books). Peg also noted that two shifts of 1-2 volunteers each work on Wednesday and Friday to process donations, and 25-30 volunteers help with each of the three large book sales each year. The current need is to review children's and young adult shelves by age and grade, maybe fiction/NF, and discard any not likely to sell. **Action: Deb, Jean and Jim** can do this after the holidays; Peg will be in touch then. The next pop-up book sale will be Jan/Feb (TBD)

**Note: at time of this draft the holiday pop-up sale raised \$96, which, added to the prior total, brings us to \$4943.65. Well done!**

**2024 Membership Drive** letter and flyer have been updated. Current membership is 64.

#### NEW BUSINESS

**2024 Meeting Dates** are set for January 8, April 8, September 9, and November 4, 2024, with winter dates likely to be on Zoom.

**Holiday Ornament Tree Decorating** will happen after Thanksgiving; Michelle will let Friends know when the tree is up. **Action: Anita,**

**Donna, Risa and Jean** will help decorate; Donna is point-person

**Holiday Wreath Sale** is underway; Friends purchase for the KFL windows

**Volunteer Recognition** has been done via cards and letters from staff since Covid—review again at January meeting

#### Library Updates

- Anita noted that **holiday giving** has grown each year, The 2023 mailing is ready now. 3,000 pieces will be sent out, there is a \$5000 challenge gift campaign in play (\$2500 each from trustees and Cole Harrison) once goal of \$35,000 is met. Sign-up to assist with mailing prep was circulated. Anita stressed

that “in-house preparation” of the campaign means a lot, “Giving Tuesday” is coming up, and the email campaign is in play through December 31<sup>st</sup>

- Michelle noted that the library will now keep the **back staff door always locked**, as well as not opening the children’s room patio door
- **1 Fletcher Street** options are being looked at (space study, lease options, etc.) and will be addressed in upcoming strategic plan
- Allison noted that a **mahjong group** is starting up; there are recurring and new programs in play; for the April eclipse KFL will be handing out 2000 special glasses; KFL is building a library of “things” (such as a light tester for Xmas lights); adult gingerbread house decorating in December; Center for Wildlife adult program in February with Beer and Birds of Prey; a grant has been written to develop a pollinator garden at one edge of parking lot

### **2024 Book Sale Dates**

May Day Book Sale (May 4, 2024) / Blueberry Festival Book Sale (July-TBD) and HarvestFest Book Sale (October-TBD)

**Next Friends Meeting:** January 8, 2024, at 5:30 pm (look for email and Zoom info a week before)

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Redding-Sampson