

**Friends of Kennebunk Free Library
Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2023**

Friends in Attendance: Donna Gomez (vice-president), Risa Oganessoff Heersche (liaison to trustees), Rosemary Lavoie, Dan Riggall, Judith Pitchforth (trustee), Laura Dauphinais (trustee), Andrea Carey, Tina Sharkey, Dianne Napolitano, Deb Redding-Sampson (president / Sept. meeting recorder)

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

Meeting Minutes 4/10/23 were unanimously accepted as written with addition of Children's Museum of Portland added to list of library passes available (Donna/Laura)

OLD BUSINESS

Membership Update: 63 current members (up from 55 in April)

May Day and Blueberry Festival Book Sales:

- brought in \$1,403.75 (May) and \$1,166.53 (July) respectively
- Attendance seemed to be up, weather cooperated!
- Discussion was held about how to organize children's books at sale for easier search of categories, etc. despite the volume displayed?

Outcome: Share discussion with Peg and Donna – review how children's books are sorted /displayed at sales.

Book Sorting Committee:

- Donna reported that many donated books are in good condition with current dates but still some donations have to be discarded.
- Books continue to be sorted for: KFL sales, donation to Better World Books (international), Giddyworm (scanned and boxed with KFL getting a portion of sale proceeds), Operation Paperback (via local volunteer Dorie Hilshey who collects for troops).
- **Reminder: Include donation protocols in next newsletter**

Seashore Trolley Museum Ice Cream Social Fundraiser: raised \$708 for KFL, just slightly less than last summer

NEW BUSINESS

Budget 2024: Michelle has a proposed budget with the same amount as 2023. Motion to accept unanimously accepted (Laura, Risa)

Election Planning: Deb noted that November 6 is the Friends annual meeting with nominations for officers. Deb will be stepping down as president and working with current leadership to identify nominees for any open positions. All are encouraged to consider joining the Friends leadership team!

HarvestFest Book Sale: October 14, with set-up October 13. Volunteer sign-up information will be emailed soon

Library updates:

- KFL just received a Remote Work Through Libraries grant of \$91,661 which will be used to improve Wi-Fi, electricity, technology, furniture (i.e., seating) and other elements to support our community remote workers
- KFL is purchasing 1 Fletcher St, the building adjacent to the library. Much still needs to be decided but it is an exciting prospect for meeting the expanding needs of the library
- Anita reported a very successful road race outcome and thanked everyone for the great teamwork that made it happen. KFL grossed almost \$56,000 this year (in 2022 it was closer to \$42,000)
- Anita is gearing up for the holiday appeal, look for volunteer sign-up email in October
- KFL has a new maintenance manager, John Kinney; the Friends are sending a retirement card to Leroy, who joins his wife Kat (longtime KFL staffer) for well-deserved R & R. They will be missed!

OTHER

- There will be themed pop-up book sales this fall (think Halloween, holidays, cooking) with dates TBD
- Thank you to Risa and Peg for their continued coverage as liaisons to the board of trustees

All meetings are from 5:30-6:30 in Hank's Room or Zoom as needed; our next meeting is November 6, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Redding-Sampson