

FRIENDS OF THE RINGWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

MEETING OF APRIL 18, 2024

7:00 pm at the Library and via ZOOM

NOTES

Call to Order: 7:06 pm

In attendance: Wendy Leine (via Zoom), Fiona Rose (via Zoom), Amy Boyle Geisel, and Wendy Sandford, Library Director

Chair's Remarks: Wendy Leine thanked everyone for coming and acknowledged that the wrong zoom information had been sent out in the original meeting invitation. Updated information was sent out shortly before this meeting and has been corrected for future meetings.

Financial Report: Eileen Manley submitted a financial report for March. Bank balance as of March 31, 2024 is \$23,982.37, but does not include what came in via Venmo and Paypal from the St. Patrick's event, which brought in a total of \$330.38 (plus what came in via VENMO and Paypal)

Remarks from the Director: Wendy Sandford proposed meeting via Zoom unless we have a fundraising event to discuss/prepare for, in which case we would meet in person. To this end, the May and June meetings would be Zoom meetings and the July meeting would be in person to start preparing for the Titanic event. Both WL and Fiona Rose thought this seemed like a good idea.

Old Business:

- **St. Patrick's Day event:** Amy Geisel reported that the St. Patrick's event had just the right amount of baked goods (thank you to all who donated) but we could have used a few more face painters as that is very popular with the children. WS also remarked that we made the most \$ and had the most attendees that we've ever had - door count was over 800. The rain probably impacted that. WL added that she attempted to recruit at the event but wasn't very successful. ABG suggested that at the next event someone could walk around with a Chromebook to sign people up for the newsletter and the Friends.
- **Proposed Fundraiser:** "Dinner on the Titanic" Date is August 10. Mary Ellen D'Elia is still in the process of securing a speaker. With regards to the food, ABG suggested requesting a donation from Costco and/or BJs as they often will give a gift card. There is a form that needs to be filled out and submitted.
- **Proposed Fundraiser:** WS was in touch with Cliff and Penny Safane and we will postpone their offered fundraiser until Spring 2025.

New Business:

- **New Merchandising Ideas:** Brainstorming ideas
License plate frames,
T-shirts with a variety of sayings: "Cool Kids Read Books", "Reading Gives Me Superpowers", "I'm In My Reading Era", "Eat, Sleep, Read"
Socks (for kids and adults) with "Book Nerd"
Stickers
- **Museum passes:** Liberty Science Center has not been getting back to us, and they have raised their prices. Should we consider swapping them out for Museum of Natural History tickets instead? That gets a lot of requests. WS will research prices for that as well as Edison Museum, Bronx Zoo, and Turtleback Zoo

- **Potential fundraiser:** Retired Ryerson art teacher Marsha Turner was introduced to MED and WS and she offers paint and sip events. She could do 2x/year (depending on how well received they are). Library would supply canvas, brushes and paint. Recruit student volunteer(s) to be her assistant.
- **Summer Reading Program:** WS presented 3 programs to go along with the Great Reading Adventures theme
 - Magic Show - geared towards young kids (\$365)
 - Paranormal Investigator - geared towards young adults (\$125-150)
 - Downsizing: My children don't want it, what do I do with it? - geared towards adults (\$200 if done via Zoom)

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 7:00 pm, via Zoom (check your email invitation for the link)

Adjournment: 7:48pm