

Proceedings of the Friends of the Brown County Library

A meeting was held on February 18, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. at the Brown County Library, 515 Pine St, Green Bay, WI.

Present: Sandra Heinzl, Curt Heuer, Matt Kolpien, Lynne Simpson, Barbara Kane, Nicole Virant, Adriannah Popkey, KaraLynne Moore, Sherrill Revolinski, Ellie Reich, Alex Galt, Meg Deem, & Don Kraft

Also present: Sue Lagerman, Jodi Angeli, and Sarah Sugden (staff).

Excused:

Don called the meeting was to order at 5:04pm.

Approve Minutes

Motion to approve minutes of **1/21/19** with no changes by Curt and seconded by Alex. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

Motion to approve November financial statements by KaraLynne and seconded by Curt. **Motion carried.**

President's Report

WE got notice of an intent from Tom Bartelt that he will be donating \$5000 to the Friends. We are still waiting for a check.

Library Report

Theresa Bishop called Sue. She used to work with Steve Sinclair. He passed away unexpectedly last year. They will be doing a fundraiser in his name on April 7th and it will benefit the Friends book sale. Sue sent her the Friends logo to put on the flyers. We will be hanging flyers in the library to help promote it.

Stacks and Steeples has kicked off. We have had two concerts. The Art Hop Collective was very impressive. We aren't sure what they do with the artwork after their performance. Maybe it would be a possibility that we could use their paintings as a fundraiser in the future? If you go to the Stacks and Steeples FaceBook page, you can see many pictures of the concerts and the art, too. The Rusty Tambourine and Burnt Toast and Jam was yesterday. Overall attendance has been approximately 80 people each day.

February 8th we had a staff development meeting. Bob VanSchyndel came and talked about inclusivity in the workplace. Karla at our Ashwaubenon branch will be leading Crucial Conversations classes with all of the employees. These will teach employees how to have those difficult conversations in the workplace.

Starting on the summer programs.

Sarah talked about the safety issues at the Central branch and the other branches. We are looking at different strategies to keep everyone in the library safe.

Sue and Sarah attending a meeting next week to look at ways to leverage the Bookmobile and other outreach services.

Looking at using tax dollars to the best of our ability to provide adequate space for all of our branches, however the East branch remains our top priority. We want to make sure that all people are able to access the branch.

Also looking at the Central Branch and ways to improve it. Sarah would like to have good, meaningful conversation with the city of Green Bay. Looking at improving parking and what not to provide good services to the city of Green Bay.

We have also been getting rid of a lot of the old furniture that is down in the old storage room in the lower level.

Annual Meeting Update

Sunday, February 24 @ 11:00 am

We are just going to have coffee and some snacks. A group of people will be coming at 10:00 am to set up for the meeting. Doors will be open at 10:45 am.

Barbara will be doing the introduction for the volunteer of the year. Sue will get the framed certificate put together. A **Motion** was made to purchase \$100 in books to be donated to the library in Laurel's name as a gift by Sandra; seconded by Meg. **Motion carried.**

Nomination Committee Report

Approve Recommendation for President and Secretary. President: Sherrill Revolinski; Secretary: Alex Galt

Asked if anyone would like to take on the role of secretary. They must be familiar with the by-laws.

Approve the recommendation of Sherrill Revolinski as president and Alex Galt as secretary. **Motion** made by Lynn; seconded by Curt. **Motion carried.**

Born to Read Update

Books have been ordered. March 27th is the date to pack. We need all four hospitals to get boxes. We need someone to deliver the books. The library will provide a dolly if need be. Curt will deliver to Aurora. Don will deliver to Bellin and St. Vincent's. Sherrill will deliver to St. Mary's.

Funding Non-Library Events Discussion

This came up when Nicole suggested that we fund a movie. It was a little bit out of the ordinary because it was not really a library activity. It might be worthwhile to look into possibly doing some funding non-library events. To just show a movie is just not enough. It is best to have a panel discussion or something like that to make it a bigger draw. It adds value to the program. The Friends support the mission of the library. The library supports literacy. Can we actually support events that don't use the library? We should be supporting things that the library come to us for. We would have to set some criteria of who we would give any kind of grant to.

If we are going to venture into this territory, we will need a procedure for how we solicit and approve projects. When most people donate money to the Friends, they are assuming the money is going to benefit the library, not projects in the community.

The Greater Green Bay Community Foundation does grants that covers all areas of the community. There is a lot of work that goes into grants. Curt will look into if there are other Friends groups that have done anything like this.

The library wouldn't have staff capacity to help out with grants.

Took an informal straw poll to see if there is interest in pursuing this further. Four people were interested.

Other Committee Updates

Nothing for Give a Kid a Book. Started ordering books already.

Alex talked about Wild Apricot. It is a membership/website platform. It would allow us to have our own website. It would form our database for membership and allow people to sign up online. The committee is still

looking it over. They will be getting together to go over pricing and put together a presentation. Next month we will go into more detail about it and what it does.

Other Business

Curt talked about the sorting room. Every now and then we get stuff donated that we know it won't sell. Is it proper for Curt, if he can find someone in the community, to offer them the books?

Also talked about swag? From UntitledTown.

Don was given a gift of appreciation. It's a car wash certificate. We can use it for the annual meeting as a give-a-way.

Summer Reading Adventure: Do we vote to approve it every year? It is actually a budgeted line item so Sue doesn't have to ask every year. Minimum of \$15000.00 for the summer reading project (shoestring budget).

February 20-21 online giving program. Givebiggreenbay.org

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Curt and seconded by Sandra. **Motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for 3/18/19 at 5:00 p.m. at the Weyers-Hilliard Branch Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Jodi Angeli
Recording Secretary