

Proceedings of the Friends of the Brown County Library

A meeting was held on **April 15, 2019** at **5:07 p.m.** at the **Ashwaubenon Branch Library, 1060 Orlando Drive, Green Bay, WI.**

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

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

Excused: Matt Kolpien

Call to Order Sherrill called the meeting to order at **5:06 pm.**

Consent Agenda

Approving the consent agenda approves all items on the consent agenda in one vote.

Motion to approve consent agenda items by Ellie and seconded by Curt. **Motion carried.**

Introduction of Ashwaubenon Branch Manager. Karla Giraldez has been with the Brown County Library for 19 years. She started at the East Branch as a children's librarian and then moved to the Southwest Branch. The Ashwaubenon branch is 42 years old. Through a generous donation of \$20,000, the branch was able to pay for paint and new furniture. Between 3:00-6:00 pm is very busy at the library because of the distance to all of the schools in the area. Many senior citizens also use the branch. There is going to be a Flamenco guitarist program funded by the Friends and the annual fish boil (August 13 at 5:30 pm; Badger Grass will be performing) has also been funded by the Friends. Challenges: Outgrown their space. Does not have all of the outlets needed for Internet. They would like to have more meeting room spaces. Parking can be an issue as well. Through the assessment of the facilities, Ashwaubenon has shown a need for an update as a facility. Property is very expensive in Ashwaubenon so there is a shortage of space available. Karla expressed how much they appreciate the support of the Friends.

President's Report

Sherrill said that she would like each committee to prepare minutes from meetings that they hold so they can bring them to the board.

Spring BIG Book Sale Update

We had a fantastic group of volunteers. Special thanks to Laurel for helping with that! There seemed to be a shortage of books. The layout has been changed which helped with the flow in the space. We received a thank you note from a woman that uses a wheel chair to get around and she said that she had no issues whatsoever. Preview night's numbers were down. Only 107 wristbands were distributed on opening night. There were far more in the past. Some speculated that it could have been weather-related or a sporting event that fell on the same night. The income was down by at least \$3000 compared to last spring's sale. We also had fabulous help with the set up by the scouts. We were done by 1:30pm. Ellie asked if we were taking CDs. No, we are not accepting them. A lot of religion books were left over. In the end, we had 238 boxes of books left and a family bought them all at \$1 per box. Barb asked if we had the contact information for the prison literacy person.

Communications Committee Update

They were hoping to have something to present to the board but not quite there. They had a meeting a week or so ago. The whole basis of Wild Apricot is to make membership more appealing to the younger demographic. It would allow us to put a link on our website to pay for membership. Curt did research on membership management software that does that and more. Wild Apricot has enough features that would

make it work us and it is lower in cost. They presented it to the committee and they are waiting for feedback from the rest of the committee before they bring it to the board. It would incorporate membership, levels of membership, managing membership groups (volunteers, book sorters), blogging, ecommerce, and incorporates credit card purchases. Curt said many Friends groups around the country use it and say it is really good. We will add it to the agenda for the next meeting. We will project it on a screen at Kress for all to see.

Born to Read Update

All done. We have not heard back from any hospital that there were any difficulties. It went really well. We had a great packing team. It would be nice to get pictures of the hospital contacts receiving the packages.

Funding Non-Library Events Discussion

Curt posted a question on the Internet asking about whether other Friends groups supported non-library sponsored events. Most seemed leery of the notion. Sherrill says that she feels we should deal with them on a case-by-case basis. UntitledTown is not part of the library programming. It brings books and literacy to people. The library vetted that activity and helped promote it. They are just using our space. Not prepared to make a blanket decision and say yes or no. Ellie suggested putting together a request form. We should maybe develop a set of guidelines and criteria (Here is our mission, here is the library's mission, how does your event serve those?). What direction is the library going to go? There are so many unmet needs of the BCL. The library should support it before the Friends decide if they will pay for it. The mission of the Friends is to support the library.

Other Business

The book fair is booked at Barnes and Noble on Saturday, November 16th, 2019 for Give a Kid a Book at 10:00am-4:00pm. The kick-off date is Wednesday, November 6.

The book tree at the railroad museum needs reworking. Anyone interested in helping contact Meg Deem.

We did not get a spot on TV for book sale this year. We will be booking both upcoming book sales for the noon show on WBAY.

New committees: Membership Committee & Fundraising Committee. If anyone is interested in joining, contact Sherrill.

After KaraLynne's resignation, we are down to 12 members. If anyone has any ideas for a prospective member, let Sherrill know.

If anyone has any other ideas about the book sale, let Sherrill know.

We would like to get input as to why we haven't been chosen for the Give Big grant.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Ellie, seconded by Lynne. **Motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned at **6:07 pm**. The next meeting is scheduled for **May 13, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.** at the **Kress Family Branch Library, 333 N. Broadway, De Pere, WI.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jodi Angeli
Recording Secretary