

Friends of the LRW Library, Inc.
Wednesday, October 11, 2017 – Lienhard Room
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

In Attendance

Executive Board: Natalie Harbeson (President), Brian Wood (Vice President, JoAnn Cromwell (Secretary)

Advisory Board: Nora Bassell, Terri Buganski, Phil DesJardins, Eileen Ferris, Daryl Googel, Ann Marino, Mary Ellen Procko, Anita Wilson, Dori Womer, Diana Young

Library Staff: Lisa Masten (Director), Karen Benner (Assistant Director)

LRWL Board of Trustees Liasian: Neil J. Ryan

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by President Natalie Harbeson.

Secretary's Report – The September minutes were reviewed. Ann motioned, seconded by Daryl to accept for file. Passed.

Treasurer's Report – Brian reported the excess from 2016/2017 Tech budget would be carried over to the current (2017/2018) budget. Report was accepted for file.

President's Report – Natalie reported 10,100 museum passes have been distributed from 2008 through September 2017.

Vice President's Report – None

Library Director's Report – Lisa reported that next week is the last week of Newington Reads. Author Jennifer Haigh will be at the library on Friday, October 20th at 6:30 PM to talk about her book Heat and Light. A CCSU professor is holding a program on fracking (the subject of Heat and Light) tonight. On Friday, October 27th as part of the Sliva event, children's author Jeff Mack will speak to the middle schools, and then be at the library to autograph his books. Books from both authors have been preordered for purchase to get autographed. The statewide delivery system is now in the new normal. The library is allowed to receive and send out three bins per day. Most of the items being sent out through the delivery system are items being returned to owning libraries. Because of this the library is not able to request items from other libraries for our patrons or lend to other libraries as we would like to do. The consortium that the library belongs to have a supplemental service to clean up the backload. Cuts to the State budget could be very bad with lending and borrowing, free databases used by patrons and schools could be cut. Another consortium that the library belongs to may be zeroed out through the state budget. This consortium provides low cost training workshops for

staff and negotiates purchase contracts with vendors for libraries to get substantial discounts on things like books and online databases. Lisa is very concerned about the final budget. Library Board of Trustees had its annual meeting on Monday, September 11. After a brief business meeting the annual meeting was held. Officers were elected – Diane Stamm, President, LeeAnn Manke, Vice President and Acting Treasurer and Judy Igielski, Secretary. Keeney Manufacturing was honored for its commitment to the Newington Library 5K Challenge road race for the past 20 years and inducted into the Legacy Society’s Runners Council for its cumulative donations for the race over the years. Then local author Katherine Spada Basto spoke about her book Days to the Gallows.

The Trustees will hold its George C. Hanel Fine Arts Series program on Sunday, November 5th at 2:00 p.m. at Martin Kellogg Middle School. Cats Pajamas, an a cappella group will be performing.

Assistant Director’s Report – Karen reported that she has been working with Michelle Royer on publicity for the Hanel Event; posting flyers at local businesses and community centers, and email blast. Publicity has also been done on the Newington Reads program. Newington High School students will be assisting with the lighting for the Hanel Event. There will be a technology Publisher Essentials class on Thursday. Jen Hebert, Caroline Petersen, and Karen attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Newington Board of Education’s Smart Bus; an old school bus was renovated to house a mobile technology bus/mobile lab that Newington students can use for educational purposes and will travel throughout the town and state. The Teen Department was invited by two JWMS 8th grade language arts classes to talk about books – this is an ongoing growing collaboration. There is also interest in speaking with 7th grade classes. Teen Librarian Bailey Francis will participate in a Youth Adult Council Hoopla program in March. The Youth Adult Council has a grant to hold an opiate forum in January.

Old Business – National Friends of Libraries Week is October 16 to October 21 with a reception to be held on the 21st from 1:30 – 3:30 PM. He Teddy Bear clinic scheduled for December 29th has 14 volunteers to help.

New Business – Diana Young has resigned from the Advisory Board as she is moving to Ohio. She will be truly missed. The FOCL Annual Fall Conference is at CCSU on November 18, 2017. Registration is \$25. More information can be found on the FOCL website. The Friends entered the Scarecrow Contest and there were 6 volunteers who worked on creating the Scarecrow. Scarecrows will be displayed October 14 – October 28. Voting can be in person at P & R Dept. or on their website. Excess Funds – see Treasurer’s report.

Committee Reports

Book Sale – Brian and the committee will meet following this meeting to plan this event. A suggestion was made to attach the bookmarks to candy for distribution on Halloween.

Bus Trip – They had a great trip and the driver was very helpful.

Election Day – Kathleen reported we will staff the Kellogg, Wallace and Town Hall polling sites from 12 – 8 PM.

Friends' Corner – Fred is working on the bookcase.

Hospitality – Terri reported all refreshments for the Friends Reception were donated. She asked if we would like to sign up to have snacks at our Advisory meetings.

Mailing – The October 19 mailing volunteers are ready to work.

Membership – Ann reported over 700 renewal notices were mailed.

Social Media – There have been 460 likes on FB.

Website – The Advisory Board Agenda and Minutes are on the site.

Wine & Cheese Social – January 19, 2018. Stew Leonard will donate. Suggest we ask for donated services for silent auction. Ct Beverage Mart and entertainment are set.

FOCL – Anita reported they are looking for new members

Adjournment – Linda motioned, Anita seconded we adjourn. Adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnn Cromwell

Secretary