

Friends of the LRW Library, Inc.
Wednesday, September 13, 2017 – Community Room
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

In Attendance

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

Advisory Board: Nora Bassell, Terri Buganski, Eileen Ferris, Daryl Googel, Kaat Harbeson, Ann Marino, Mary Ellen Procko, Linda Therriault, Anita Wilson, Diana Young

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

Friends: Fred Berner, Newell Stamm, Carole Jordan, Kathleen Holland

Meeting was called to order at 6:34 PM by President Natalie Harbeson.

Secretary's Report – The May minutes were accepted for file.

Treasurer's Report – Mary Presented the Treasurer's Report which was accepted for file.

President's Report - Natalie reported the Kaye Burke, a longtime Friend and Board member has moved to Massachusetts. Nora Bassell's address and email were corrected. The wine and Cheese Social will be held on January 19, 2018. Eileen was presented with the Friends Notebook as a new member.

Vice President's Report – None

Library Director's Report – Lisa reported the library participated in an international library program called Outside the Lines: Libraries Reintroduced during the week of September 10 – 16. Library staff went out into the community to talk about library services. Places visited included CT FastTrack on Fenn Road, Human Services Food Bank, School Open Houses, Starbucks and more.

The summer reading program ended at the end of August. Approximately 1200 kids participated, 104 teens and 471 adults. Thanks to the Friends of the Library for its funding for this reading program.

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.

Newington READS – one book one town is in full swing. This community-wide reading event of the book Heat and Light by Jennifer Haigh began in August and will conclude on October 24 with a visit from the author MS. Haigh. The author visit will be held at the Senior and Disabled Center beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Author Jeff Mack will be speaking to all 3rd & 4th graders in Newington at the Newington High School on Friday, October 27 as part of the Sliva Young People's Literary Series. The author will be selling and signing books at the library that afternoon from 3 – 6 p.m.

The deliverIT, the State Library's statewide delivery system was revamped in June and the new service began on July 1. Libraries are allowed to receive 3 bins a day and send out 3 bins a day as part of the new system. These amounts are very restrictive and we are already seeing backlogs of items to be picked up and sent out.

The library got new front doors in July in an effort to address the terrible wind tunnel effect that staff and patrons endure in the winter months. Cold air would come in the front doors and it could be felt all the way down to the reference desk. These new doors open on either side rather than the middle. Patrons are getting used to them.

Assistant Director's Report – Karen reported all tech classes are full with a wait list. The book talk in the fall will feature fiction/ mysteries. The movie series fills up quickly. Suggest we write our Congressman not to cut the library budget.

Old Business – Ann reported there was lower turnout for the media sale. Sales were \$360. The committee will evaluate if the media sale will continue in the future. The records have all been sold. Thank you to all volunteers. A volunteer sign-up sheet was circulated for the Waterfall Festival mini book sale. The bus trip to New York City is on September 30th. The teddy bear clinic will be held on December 29th.

New Business – The Friends reception will be held on Saturday, October 21, 1:30 – 3:30 PM. Invitations will be mailed on October 1st. We need a Bus Trip coordinator.

Committee Reports

Adopt-a-shelf – Anita has 8 volunteers to train at various times in October.

Book Sale – The book sale is scheduled for November 3, 4, 5. Brian and the committee will meet to plan this event.

Election Day – Kathleen is coordinating volunteers for this day.

Friends' Corner – The cooler has been picked up by Grace Episcopal Church. Brian motioned and Ann seconded that we allocate \$700 max for the purchase of a 48" bookcase for that corner, and matching bins for the misc sales.

Hospitality – Terri Buganski has graciously agreed to be the chair of this committee.

Mailing – Scheduled for October 19.

Publicity – Daryl Googel will help.

Social Media – There have been 459 likes on FaceBook. The FB ad had 21 responses.

Website – Terri and Natalie are working on it.

Wine & Cheese Social – January 19, 2018. Terri is working on entertainment.
Suggestions for door prizes and raffle baskets.

Adjournment – Terri motioned, Kaat seconded we adjourn. Adjourned at 7:36 PM.

At 7: 37 PM Newell Stamm presented a program on the Library renovation. The Library has expanded into all open spaces. It was originally suggested it be 66K sq ft but for our town size 22K sq ft is more reasonable. We will probable recommend 44K sq ft at a cost of approximately \$15,500,000 or \$350 per sq ft. Parking is an issue. Futureproofing and flexibility are the buzz words. He showed a lot of beautiful designs of other libraries from around the country.

Program ended at 8:27 PM.