

Board of the Friends of Brandywine Hundred Library

Minutes of the Meeting held Tuesday, July, 14, 2015

Members Present: Natalie Burke, Paula Evans, Angela Holodick, Agnes Galvin, Martha Gessler, Claire Kantar, Richard James, Michelle-Masitis Mooney, Lynne Rosa.

Members Absent: Mary Bowler

Also present: Jean Kaufman, library manager and Jim Conrad, former president

Welcome and Announcements

Lynne Rosa (president) opened the meeting by announcing that Claire Kantar (Garden Group Chair) had asked to present her report first as she had to leave early.

Garden Plan Update

- Ms. Kantar announced that Martha Stevens, landscapes manager of the Delaware Horticultural Society (DHS) gave us an estimate of \$20,000 to implement Mr. Benarcik's plan to recreate the garden in front of the library and near the staff entrance.
- Included in this amount is the cost of labor to be provided by employees of the DHS
- The Friends have agreed to contribute \$10,000 from their current funds.
- The DHS have indicated that grants can be obtained for this type of project. Agnes Galvin will explore grant possibilities.
- Ms. Rosa stated that several steps need to be taken before the project can be formally adopted by the board:
 - 1) We will need a second presentation by Mr. Benarcik using a colored depiction of his garden plan. This will give the board a better idea of the finished project and can also be used as an aid to fundraising.
 - a. He has planned a low maintenance garden featuring native plants with some color or interest in all seasons.
 - b. He does not include annuals, but they can be planted in pots to give extra color in the summer
 - 2) We need to develop a budget for the project.
 - 3) Electric cables, water pipes etc. need to be located before digging to avoid surprises.

4) Jean Kaufman added that Diana Brown, Manager of Libraries, would also like to be invited to a presentation. This will be set up for the September meeting, and all interested parties can attend.

- The discussion of the garden plan resulted in the following resolution by Richard James, seconded by Kay Bowes: it is resolved that we continue to be interested in Mr. Benarcik's plan for the garden, but we need to get more specific cost estimates, develop a budget, and bring in county officials to attend a presentation at the September meeting.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the July meeting were approved with two changes.

Treasurer's Report: Mary Bowler will e-mail it to board members.

Library Manager's Report:

- The library is providing more activities for the summer day camp on the library grounds this year; for example; we held a scavenger hunt in the library and campers are participating in the Summer Reading Club.
- 1089 children are registered for the Summer Reading Club and 217 have already read ten hours
- In the adult reading club, Kay Bowes has already read her four books and won a prize.
- Grand prizes include a Kindle Fire for the 6-8 year old group and mini iPads for the older children.
- The Brandywine Garden Club, together with the youth librarians, hosted a children's event, Ladybug Day, at the library on June 10th in celebration of National Garden Week. This featured stories, songs, activities and tours of the Children's Garden, which is maintained by the club.

Advocacy Report

- Ms. Bowes recommended a free webinar called *Beyond Book Sales* which gave suggestions for fundraising.
- Ms. Bowes and Ms. Rosa will give a presentation on fundraising and advocacy at the board's fall conference

Program Report

- Martha Gessler reported that two more concerts are scheduled in the library garden.
- We have contributed \$100.00 to Clarion Brass
- We will give the *Whirled Peas Band* \$250.00
- We will provide an ice-cream treat and face painting at the final concert.
- A Children's Zoo presentation is scheduled for November 18 from 4-5 o'clock. It will geared to teenagers and up. Cost: \$175.00 plus \$20.00 travel costs.

Summary of Up-Coming events

- There will be no August meeting as several board members will be on vacation.
- Membership Week will be October 19 -25 during National Friends of the Library Week. We will give away apples and bags with Friends' stickers as we did last year.
- The Friends Conference will be held on the Saturday of that week.
- Ms. Kaufman has said that there is a demand for tutoring at the library. The board will consider sponsoring this service.
- We should examine the recent member survey results to find people willing to help with tutoring, gardening etc.
- The annual library staff luncheon is scheduled for September 10. Lynne Rosa will organize it.
- Main topics for future meetings will be: September miscellaneous. October: Conference November: prep for annual meeting. December Annual Meeting with food and possible presentation.
- A Motion to Adjourn was made by Ms. Gessler seconded by Mr. James at 8:24 PM

NO MEETING IN AUGUST

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 8th at 7PM in the library.

Agnes Galvin and Martha Gessler will be on vacation so a volunteer will be needed to take the minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

Agnes M. Galvin

