

FRIENDS OF BETHLEHEM PUBLIC LIBRARY

Minutes of meeting held August 1, 2024

Board Members present: Hilary Veilleux, Norma St. John, Allegra Wright, Sally Fitzgerald, Connie Johnson, Estelle LaFleur

Friends Members present: Sue Presby

Guests present:

Librarian present: Laura Clerkin

Meeting called to order 5:39pm

July 11, 2024 FOBPL minutes: Norma motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Connie. All in favor.

Treasurer's report: The CD current balance is \$9,287.03, the second CD balance is \$4,158.95, and the checking account current balance is \$4,897.88, for a total of \$18,343.86.

Allegra motioned to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Sue. All in favor.

Old Business

Christmas ornament fundraiser update – Estelle will send the two possible designs to Sue who will forward them to the ornament company. There is a minimum order of 150 pieces at a cost of \$10.00 each. Hilary suggested that each board member be responsible to sell a set amount. To recap, the purchaser will pay the shipping cost for any ornaments that are mailed.

Parade, August 10th - update – The bookmarks and dino candies have been organized. Sally and Laura's daughter-in-law and grandson will walk during the parade and hand out the bookmarks. There may be other who will walk. Laura's husband has a trailer for folks to sit on. The front of the truck will have the banner and the dino will be on the cab of the truck. The back of the ramp on the trailer will have some sort of advertising. The trailer will have some advertising that shows what the Friends do for the library. Allegra, Connie, Hilary, and possibly Sally will meet on August 7th at 9:30am to create the posterboards from designs printed by Abbie. Hilary will purchase four posterboards.

Gazebo Concerts - update – Norma shared that our sales to date are higher than this time last year. The weather this year has been cooperating with the shows. There are five more concerts scheduled this year. Everyone is grateful to the volunteers.

T-Shirt sales – update – nothing to report. Allegra suggested a new poster that is more visible to patrons. She will put something together for Sunday night.

PayPal app – additional users – update – Norma is set up and Allegra will be for Sunday.

Pavillion update – tabled until next meeting.

New Business

Friends Future - brainstorming – The core group of Friends are getting tired. We need more people to help with individual tasks. How can we do this? Without new help, how can the Friends continue? Some suggestions mentioned include searching online what other Friends groups are doing for ideas, marketing the Friends via social media, sending press releases, sending out EDDMs, reaching out to the elementary school for a partnership with them similar to a Flat Stanley program and posting online, reaching out to WMMC for ideas on partnerships, and possible contests. Hilary asked how this should be handled in the Annual Meeting letter regarding upcoming ideas and events. An in-depth brainstorming session will be scheduled for late September/early October.

Bake Sale – election September 10th – Hilary will get things organized and help on the day itself for a brief time, Norma can be there for a bit as well. Sally and Allegra are willing to help. Hilary will need people to bake items.

Summer Program finale – Laura thanked the Friends for the great summer program finale. The children enjoyed it immensely.

Allegra made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Sally. The meeting adjourned at 7:11PM.

Next meeting: Thursday, September 5, 2024 at 5:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Estelle LaFleur