



**FRIENDS OF THE
W.K. SANFORD COLONIE
TOWN LIBRARY MEETING MINUTE
September 8, 2020 – 10:00 AM**

NOTE: Because of the current CoronaVirus Pandemic, this meeting was held via Zoom.

ATTENDING (via Zoom)

Edye Benson, Jan Hagen, Becky Klope, Leslye Milos, Sharon Parkis, Jenny Quirk and Claudia Thornton.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Per Leslye:

- One of the CDs is coming due on September 16. Although the interest rate will presumably be lower, it will be renewed.
- Income was \$291.51 (\$241.50 of which was from the Saturday book sales); expenses were \$196.91. The new checking account balance is at \$14,424.97.
- Summary of all accounts, including savings, CDs, etc., is \$56,804.52.

BOOK SALE TABLE UPDATES

- Becky thanked Edye for coordinating the Saturday book sales.
- Edye reported that Shawn wasn't around this past Saturday which was a problem. There were no tables and chairs out, although the shed was unlocked. Edye thanked the volunteers for dragging things out. She would like to determine why this occurred so it doesn't happen again. The tables and chairs were locked in the library. There was access to the "bad" cart, although the better one was inside. Storing the tables in the shed is not an option because of space limitations.
- The same few volunteers have been coming on Saturdays, and they do a great job.

- The book sales will end on September 26.
- However, we are almost out of books. We will need to follow up with Evelyn to determine when donations can be accepted. The shed could be used for the three-day quarantine of the books.
- Marion has been back so it's assumed she is available to help with donations.
- Until we know more about when donations can be accepted, we are unable to move forward with a larger sidewalk sale.

ANNUAL MEETING

- Becky reported that the Friends Annual Meeting is normally held in October. Last month, it was discussed that one idea is to postpone the Annual Meeting until October 2021 and vote for a new slate of officers at that time. All four officers agreed to extend their term for one additional year.
- Jan said one advantage to delaying for one year is that we can hopefully identify more volunteers for leadership positions.
- Becky made a motion to hold the Annual Meeting in October 2021. All voted in favor of delaying the meeting. There were no abstentions.
- Becky made a motion to extend all officer terms for one additional year until October 2021, at which time there will be a new slate of officers presented. All voted in favor, and there were no abstentions.
- Leslye will prepare an annual report for the October 2020 meeting.
- Becky will also give a brief review of what the Friends have accomplished this past year.

SURVEY RESPONSES

- Becky created a spreadsheet, which she shared online, showing the responses regarding ability to volunteer, etc.
- It appears that we have a number of willing volunteers for the sidewalk sale.
- Discussion of the survey participants' responses brought up some issues. For example, it was mentioned that someone who was not an officer attended a monthly meeting and felt awkward because there were no other non-officers attending. The Friends should make a special effort to be welcoming and inclusive to the new attendees.
- Sharon Parkis leads a book club that is now being held via Zoom. A lot can still be held virtually. We just need new ideas.
- Since there are maybe 100-200 volunteers, many of whom are for a specific project or day, the Friends could send out an email in an attempt to engage more

people. Becky said before Covid, there were people who had volunteered to sort books and be on the Little Free Library project.

- A comment was made that it was difficult to find the Friends on the Library web site because you have to click on the Support tab. This is something that can be discussed with Evelyn.

BOSCOV'S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

- Claudia reported that the Boscov's program is different because of Covid. There are no tickets to sell. It is all about publicizing that the Friends are participating.
- How it works is the Friends will sign up by the September 15 deadline and publicize it on our Friends page and the Library's web site. Edye suggested contacting Jen to create a handout to be used at the Saturday book sales. We can also send out an email to all members.
- The Boscov's sale days are October 14 and 15. The customer gets a 20 percent discount on most items on those two days. They should also tell the cashier the nonprofit they wish to support; they should mention the Friends of the William K. Sanford Town Library. The Friends will get 5 percent of their sale. Purchases can also be made online.

HANNAFORD COMMUNITY BAG PROGRAM

- The Friends have been selected by Hannaford to benefit from bag sales during the month of October at the Wolf Road, Colonie store. The bags sell for \$2.50 each.
- Hannaford will send us a check the following month for \$1 per bag sold.
- This, too, can be on the Friends and Library web pages.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Claudia asked if we could consider publicizing Voting information as well as the New York State Writers Institute which is held during Fall 2020. It is normally a physical book festival at SUNY, but this year it will be online events.
- Sharon said that bringing in authors ourselves could bring in new people to the library and the Friends, people who don't know what we do. Many readers like to see the authors who write the books they read. East Greenbush Library and the book store in Stuyvesant Plaza were mentioned as still bringing in authors.
- Sharon's book club brought in an author; Sharon contacted the author to arrange the event. Most participants bought the book. This was before Covid.
- Becky suggested maybe we could bring in an author via Zoom.

- Sharon suggested we find out what other Friends groups are doing. Becky said that before Covid, there was a group meeting held by the Upper Hudson and that the next topic was to be fundraising. That meeting was cancelled.

The meeting adjourned at 10:43 am.

Next meeting: Tuesday, OCTOBER 13, 2020 at 10:00 am via Zoom.

Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by Claudia Thornton, Secretary.