



FRIENDS OF THE W.K. SANFORD COLONIE TOWN LIBRARY MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 12th, 2024 6:00PM

ATTENDING

Tori Behrmann, Edye Benson, Debbie Berkun, Judi Gallop, Bonnie Hetfield, Mary Ellen Jung, Becky Klope, Queen Lewis, Louise McColgin, Leslye Milos, Sharon Parkis, Elliot Robins, Amy Sonder, Jennifer Soucy, Claudia Thornton, Elissa Valente, Mary Van Ullen.

This meeting began with the Annual Meeting of the W.K. Sanford Colonie Town Library Friends of the Library. The Friends' regular meeting took place afterward.

ANNUAL MEETING

Overview of Projects and Fundraisers—Becky. The Friends of the Library's activities over the last year have included the following:

- Annual Appeal
- Love Your Library
- Repair Cafe book give away
- Book Nook all summer
- Membership renewal
- Summer Reading Program support
- Annual Book Sale
- Bus Trip to NYC
- Weekly book donation sorting
- Car Wash tickets virtual fundraiser

The Friends activities center around books. We process donations, sell books and donate books. The Friends support many Little Free Libraries in the community, as well as several other organizations for child and adult readers.

There are presently 237 active memberships, which includes both individual and family memberships. A total of 99 adults and teens signed up through the Friends' website to volunteer for projects and events. The number of Little Free Libraries in Colonie we are connected to has reached 18, an increase of three over the prior year.

Overview of Finances—Leslye

Leslye presented the annual financial report. Total income was \$52,275.96. Annual expenses were \$30,244.82

The Annual Meeting was adjourned at 6:37

.....

Minutes of the Friends meeting for November, 2024

LIBRARY REPORT

Elissa gave the library report. The Town budget passed. The library has approval to hire two part-time employees. Libraries did well in the state budget. Through the UHLS, the library will be offering a NYT subscription to patrons, as well as a telephone based translation service. Elissa noted that the library had some issues with their Facebook post about the Halloween event being spammed and noted that we might wish to be careful about advertising events.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Leslye presented the Treasurer's Report. The summary is listed below. More details are available on request.

2024 Friends of the Library Budget Month of October, 2024	
Total Income	\$1,885.61
Total Expenses	\$1,982.33
Total Balance in Accounts	\$145,359.49

REQUESTS

Name: Elissa Valente

Funding Amount: \$652.50 for the first year
\$725 for following years

What is the funding for?

The library would like to offer online museum passes for our patrons. The Bethlehem Library has done this with great success. In order to do this we need to purchase an annual subscription to a "ticketing" platform, Tixkeeper. Many of our museums are already doing this, so they are ready to roll over the service to our passes. As the Friends purchase the passes for the library, I would like to see if we can improve the service even more. This ask would be added to the annual Library Museum Pass grant request.

Category: Technical Services

Date funding is required: End of year

Elissa gave a demonstration of the Bethlehem Library's instance of Tixkeeper. Friends thought it would be a great service to offer.

Amy made a motion to approve and Mary seconded the motion. Friends approved the request.

Elissa also noted that the Little Free Library near the Ciccotti Center at the Crossings is in need of repair. The plexiglass in the door is broken. She was looking for help to get it fixed. Mary offered to see if her husband could fix it.

VOLUNTEERS

Donations are paused in November and December so book sorters will not be needed during those months. Donations will resume in January.

NYC BUS TRIP

Amy gave a review of the October 26th bus trip. Forty-six people attended. She sent out a survey to attendees and the responses were overwhelmingly positive. Most people who responded to the survey found out about the trip from a poster in the library.

HALLOWEEN TRUNK OR TREAT

The event was a huge success, with over 4,000 people attending! Thanks to all who participated

END OF THE YEAR APPEAL

Letters will go out by the beginning of December. Mary and Tori are working on a newsletter to go with it. Several members offered to help with envelope stuffing.

FREE BOOK DAYS

We discussed the idea of holding informal free book days one Saturday a month, along with providing information about the Friends. We will revisit this idea in the future.

LIBRARY GINGERBREAD CONTEST

There will be a gingerbread contest December 5th at 6:30. The library is looking for volunteers to serve as judges. Several Friends offered to help.

UPCOMING:

December Meeting is CANCELED

January 14th Meeting 2025 Annual Budget review and vote to approve

Love Your Library fundraiser February 1st-14th. Friends can start crafting flowers. Book supplies are available.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm. **The next meeting will be held on Tues. January 14th, 2025, in person at the library at 6:00pm.**

Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by Mary Van Ullen, Secretary.