

## **Minutes of the Friends of the Bennington Area Libraries Meeting, September 24, 2019**

President Rochelle Samuelson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Those in attendance included Rochelle Samuelson, Regina Meredith, Tera Keatts, Katie Keatts, Megan Green, Sally Hanson, Lisa Flaxbeard, Angela Tetschner, and Kathy Faucher.

**Secretary's Report** -- The members read and approved the minutes from May's meeting.

**Treasurer's Report** -- The members read and approved.

### **Librarian's Report**

1. Lisa Flaxbeard thanked the Friends for purchasing memberships to Fontenelle Forest, the Omaha Children's Museum, and Lauritzen Gardens. She explained how library patrons can utilize these memberships.
2. Lisa reported that the summer reading program and finale were a success. She said the children were very excited to select their very own book as the reward for completing the program. Lisa felt this incentive increased the number of children completing the program. She thanked the Friends for purchasing the books.
3. Lisa reported on the Library Expansion Project. She has received bids to replace several old windows. The west windows will be tinted, and the landscaping outside continues with a new tree being planted and plants being maintained. Lisa is getting bids for lighting the library's tower/outside sign. She also is getting bids for additional lighting in the kitchen.

### **Old Business**

1. The Bennington Daze book sale raised \$1348.75. Dee Clark moved to spend up to \$250 on new yard signs and feather flags. The motion passed.
2. The Omaha Gives fundraiser raised \$1327.27.
3. Members discussed having three meetings per year – possibly in May, September, and January.
4. Kim Rohe has organized a food fundraiser at Chipotle (147<sup>th</sup> and Maple) on October 6, 2019. Members were encouraged to spread the word and participate in the event.

## **New Business**

1. Rochelle Samuelson has been updating the Friends' website. It now includes a link to *Sign Up Genius* for volunteer opportunities.
2. Rochelle Samuelson also updated the Friends' trifold flyer.
3. Rochelle Samuelson purchased 500 thank you cards for the Friends to use.
4. Lisa Flaxbeard reported that Nick Chesnut donated a signed Cornhusker picture for the Friends to use as a fundraising item. Members discussed various ideas. Regina Meredith volunteered to look into free online auction sites. Kathy Faucher mentioned eBay as a possibility. Lisa said that the library could help display the picture and promote the fundraiser.
5. Rochelle Samuelson announced that the Friends will host an Open House at the library on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. She suggested blanketing the Bennington area with a postcard that invites people to the Open House, that explains the importance of a strong Friends' organization, and that encourages people to remember the Friends with their end-of-the year giving. Dee Clark moved to spend up to \$5,000 for this postcard and postage. The motion was seconded and passed.
6. Dee Clark announced that the annual Halloween Party will be October 25, 2019 from 4:00 p.m – 5:00 p.m. in the library. Members were encouraged to help at this event.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m. The next meeting will be January 8, 2020 at the library and will be in conjunction with the Open House. The meeting will start at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Angela Tetschner, secretary

Approved 1/8/20