

Minutes of the Friends of Bennington Area Libraries Meeting, January 8, 2020

President Rochelle Samuelson called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Those in attendance included Rochelle Samuelson, Dee Clark, Angela Tetschner, Kathy Faucher, Lisa Flaxbeard, and John Feyerherm.

Secretary's Report -- The members read and approved the minutes from September's meeting after adding Dee Clark to the attendance roster and fixing the spelling of Nick Chesnut's name.

Treasurer's Report -- The members read and approved. Rochelle Samuelson reported that she was able to complete the postcard mailing and purchase new Book Sale yard signs under budget.

Librarian's Report

1. Lisa Flaxbeard reported that Dee Clark will have worked at the library for 35 in the spring.
2. Lisa Flaxbeard discussed the staffing needs of the library and how she is developing a survey to query the community about adding additional hours to the library's schedule.
3. Lisa Flaxbeard is attending a workshop dedicated to teen programs and patrons.

Old Business

1. Members discussed the Husker picture fundraiser. Rochelle Samuelson volunteered to look into online auction companies.
2. Rochelle Samuelson reported that around \$400 was raised at the Chipotle food night fundraiser.
3. The members discussed the day's Open House. While attendance was low, the postcards did create awareness for the library and the Friends. Rochelle Samuelson volunteered to put the slideshow she created for the Open House on the Friend's website and Facebook page.

New Business

1. Members discussed the Friend's bake sale at the annual Lion's Rib Feed. The Rib Feed will be on March 14th. Rochelle reported that Megan Green and Tera Keatts have volunteered to chair the bake sale.
2. Kim Rohe has organized a food night fundraiser at Raising Cane's. This fundraiser will be on February 27th.
3. National Library Week is April 19th - 25th. The theme is "Find Your Place @ The Library." Rochelle encouraged members to email her ideas about how the Friends can help support the library during this special week.
4. Members discussed the summer reading program. Rochelle Samuelson asked for volunteers to help secure business donations to help with funding. She also encouraged members to send her ideas for the parade. The topic for the summer reading program is fairy tales/mythology/fantasy.

5. Dee Clark made a motion to spend \$300 to place an ad in the Chamber of Commerce's May postcard. The motion was seconded and passed.
6. Members discussed the possibility of purchasing Friend's merchandise. The topic was tabled.
7. Rochelle Samuelson reported that librarian Joanne Mancuso asked if the Friends would sponsor a visit from author Bruce Arant this summer. He is a Nebraskan author who writes children's books. Kathy Faucher moved to fund Mr. Arant's visit. The motion was seconded and passed.
8. Rochelle Samuelson reported that the Friends needs a new PR person. This person would help promote Friends' events via social media and other methods. Lisa Flaxbeard agreed to post a "wanted poster" for the position in the library.
9. Rochelle Samuelson suggested looking into the possibility of having a "pre-party" on Halloween for children on the autism spectrum. She volunteered to research the idea further.
10. Members discussed the possibility of hosting a Trivia Night.
11. Members discussed the idea of having a "one-city, one-book" style promotion. Members suggested possible titles. Lisa Flaxbeard and Rochelle Samuelson volunteered to pursue this idea - possibly announcing the

title and kicking off the program during National Library Week.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Tetschner, secretary