

February 10, 2020 Meeting Notes for Friends of the Sharon Public Library

Notes taken by Michael Della Bitta with additions by Kate Mason

Present: Carolyn Weeks, Kate Mayson, Elizabeth Kasaab, Michael Della Bitta, Lee Ann Amend, Giselle Princz, Alice Cusner, Amity Kelley

Elizabeth motioned to approve minutes

Amity seconded

Motion Passed

Financial Report:

Additional/upcoming expenses for Book Sale:

- Invoice for \$154.40 for book sale stickers and banner
- Joanne received an estimate from the printer for town wide mailing:
 - \$2000 for printing (one b/w double-sided on color paper; one b/w post card single sided; one tri-fold b/w on colored paper; mailing envelopes plus extra 500 with just Friends logo)
 - Addressing is \$570.
 - 569.75 postage
 - Grand total: \$3139.75
- Stuffing dates: April 15th and 17th 10-12 Noon in Community Room.
- Outstanding sorting questions: Do we need the letters sorted in delivery order, or just batched by route? Do we need other times?

Motion to approve finance report: Amity

Seconded: Elizabeth

Motion passed

February Fundraisers:

- Sweethearts Three Valentine's Day fundraiser: order deadline extended to today/Monday. Estimated at over a dozen orders. Elizabeth will check in with Jill.
- Book Basket: Continue to sell raffle tickets until Thursday, February 13; Drawing at the end of the Pat Jordan presentation.

Future for Basket Fundraisers:

We agreed that monthly baskets require too much time to sell tickets for the amount raised. A couple of alternative ideas:

Idea 1: Amity suggested having multiple baskets available for raffle in September in anticipation for the annual meeting in October. Leave them in the library and consider a Silent Auction approach (need to work details). Establish basket themes now and gather books at book sale.

For Example: a Book Club Book Basket with multiple copies of books and perhaps some munchies, etc. Look at the suggested basket themes discussed in December.

Idea 2: Sustainable Sharon is doing Green Day at the High School on May 2nd. Basket silent auction or raffle opportunity. Could be aligned with environmental theme; kids basket. Target: 2 baskets. Collect books at book sale and look for themes from the books we took from our rentals at the library. Lee Ann will send the Green Day contact information to Kate.

Next newsletter Winter/Spring (late March): Some topics

- Promote book sale and sponsors
- Shaw's fundraiser outcome (community bag program for February)
- TY Shaws for Bag Day bags
- Tina Cassidy book talk (April 23) and book discussion group (April 1).
- Promotions of events we helped sponsor at the library: Sharon stitches. Frankentoys, etc. Gather info from Lee Ann.
- February Fundraisers wrap-up - winner of basket and \$ raised from valentines chocolate. TY to Sweethearts Three
- Rentals discontinuation

It was suggested that newsletters are becoming obsolete vs. one-off email blasts. If we want to discontinue these, we need to amend our by-laws and get them approved at our October Annual Meeting. Topic for upcoming meetings.

Book sale updates:

- Sponsor Requests: Elizabeth has reached out to all of these sponsors, some with additional requests. We need to ensure we have current and updated logos for each sponsor
 - Dedham Savings
 - Sharon Credit Union
 - Herb Chambers
 - Eastern Savings
- Potential Sponsor asks: Elizabeth to research the opportunities
 - Everwood
 - Crescent Ridge
 - Ward's Berry Farm
- Kate received a donation of 500 10-cents reusable bags from Shaws for Bag Day
- Michael is in process of updating town wide mailing docs
- Lee Ann: has contacted the town to help move tables as well as lining up the Dumpster and More Than Words to pick up books
- Kate will contact the textbook guy
- Advertising the book sale - venues:
 - Massachusetts yard sales - did we do this last year?
 - Craigslist- did we do this last year?

- Booksellers - who do we contact to add a banner again?
- Suburban Shopper - Alice to check
- Sharon What's Up + Everything Sharon on Facebook - Amity to check
- Flyers (mid-April) - Joanne
- Sharon Advocate / The Times Advocate - Lee Ann to send contact information to Kate
- Gift Certificates to the Schools? Elizabeth explained the elementary school PTOs have Fun Fairs and our Book Sale GC are part of the prizes. We will use the same template as last year.

Director's update:

- Grant submissions: staff are submitting applications for three grants for new programs.
- New Library - still much activity in town surrounding the library. Important Zoning Meeting on March 11 at 7:30 p.m. Location TBD. Lee Ann said attendance will make a difference.
- Veterans programs - National veterans group selected 50 people out of many submissions nationwide to create a Veterans Tool Kit and Lee Ann was selected! She will be going to Texas A&M, all expenses paid by the Veteran's group.

Meeting times:

We discussed starting our meetings at 7:00 pm rather than 7:30 pm. Everyone in the room indicated they could work with this change. We will begin meeting at 7 p.m. going forward.

Motion to adjourn: Elizabeth

Second: Giselle

Moved