

Friends of the Sharon Public Library Minutes, Board meeting on June 8, 2020 – held via Zoom due to the library being closed

Prepared by: Joanne Blatte

Present: Kate Mason, Joanne Blatte, Amity Kelley, Carolyn Weeks, Alice Cusner, Elizabeth Kassab, Lee Ann Amend (library director)

The town of Sharon has closed the library to the public in order to slow/stop the spread of the coronavirus so this meeting was held via zoom.

Key Tasks assigned at this meeting:

All:

Stay Safe

Attend the ZBA Zoom Meeting on Wednesday June 9

Alice:

Adopt a Book as needed

Amity:

Set up Zoom meeting for our next board meeting

Carolyn:

Keep us updated on trustees' issues

Elizabeth:

Send out email to members, as needed

Giselle:

Handle memberships, as needed

Joanne:

Manage Website, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter

Kate:

Handle membership, as needed

Lee Ann:

Provide an update on museum passes

Library Update: Lee Ann

Lee Ann had to leave early so we heard library update first

MBLC (Mass Board of Library Commissioners) came out with directive today that libraries can only allow patrons to come to the circulation desk – no browsing or using the library in any other way). Therefore, the library will remain closed to the public and continue curbside pickup. Books are required to be quarantined for 24 hours.

They are installing plexiglass at circulation desks. In order to maintain social distancing from staff, they will need to block off stacks near the circulation desk from the public once allowed to open.

Libraries are asking the state if these are mandated directives or local towns can decide something different.

Inter-library loans have not started up yet. Books are being returned to their home libraries now, so we are still limited to Sharon inventory of books.

Lee Ann notified Giselle that there was one more expense for online programming of \$85 for Big Ryan.

We will not make a decision on holding the Tina Cassidy event in October yet.

Alice motioned to approve May minutes

Amity seconded

Motion passed

Financial Report: Giselle

We received \$350 from Eastern with a note that due to COVID they are lifting restrictions on how the money may be used. We also received \$1,500 from Sharon Credit Union.

Alice has some adopt-a-books. She will ask Lee Ann if staff can help coordinate the selection of books since the public isn't allowed in the library.

Alice motioned to accept the financial report

Elizabeth seconded

Motion passed

Zoning Board:

The next Zoning board of Appeals is meeting on 6/10 via Zoom to discuss variances required for the new library. Trustees answered questions that came up during the last zoning board meeting. We sent an email to our members providing an update and asking them to express their support for the new library by either writing an email to ZBA or attending the Zoom meeting. All Friends members are urged to attend the meeting and stay informed.

Book Sale:

We received some information from Bay State Books about how their book collection bins would work. Bay State Books will come to Sharon to make suggestions on where to put the bins. We receive 30% of proceeds minus the cost of driver/van and taxes. We do not have to pay if pick-up does not net enough money to cover the cost of these expenses.

There is an exclusivity clause stating that we can't sell any books online. They are willing to stop collecting books prior to our book sale and will allow us to post a sign on the bin that books should be donated for the Friends sale during that time.

There are 2 types of bins. One goes in a building and one can sit outside.

They have been working with Lincoln library. Kate will call Lincoln to get more information.

Questions for Bay State Books and/or Lincoln:

- 1) How long is contract? 6 months? 1 year?
- 2) What are size of bins?
- 3) How many bins should we have in town and where?
- 4) How much does Lincoln make?
- 5) Can we put a sign on the bin that a portion of the proceeds goes to the Friends?

Joanne is having a call with Better World Books on Monday, June 15th. They will also pay for donated books but we think we need to ship the donated books to them which would be a lot more work.

We also found Abebooks.com which has Ziffit that buys certain books and Textbookrush that buys textbooks. They have an app that scans the ISBN number and determines the value of the book. We would also need to ship the books to them.

We discussed an option of holding our book sale at the community center. We don't think the logistics would work – especially with COVID-19 still around.

It seems unrealistic to hold a booksale while adhering to the social distancing guidelines. We will make a final decision next month. Hopefully at that time we will also be able to decide about other fundraising options. We also need to decide what to do about membership dues – should we ask for renewals or extend for another 6 months or a year

After deciding, we will send out an email to members notifying them

- 1) If we canceled the book sale
- 2) Books can be donated at the bins
- 3) How we are handling membership

At our next meeting we also need to discuss museum passes. Are the museums extending or changing their benefits as they reopen? Can the library handle managing museum passes during COVID-19 limitation.

Our next board meeting is Monday, July 6th at 7pm and will be held via Zoom. A Zoom link will be sent to all board members

Alice motioned to adjourn

Giselle seconded

Meeting adjourned