



10 Community Way
East Greenbush, NY 12061
eastgreenbushlibrary.org/friends-of-the-library
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November 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes

ATTENDANCE:

Julie Ann Price – President	
Ei Aung - Vice-President-Elect	Deb Tagliento
Liz Reyner – Treasurer	Linda Murphy
Diana Valenchis - Advocacy Co-Chair	Mary Kolb
Alex Bellisario - Membership Co-Chair	David Gonsalves
MaryAnn Baird - Membership Co-Chair	Lynne Shultis
Jill Dugas Hughes - Library Director	
Mari Harris - Library Board Co-President	

Absences:

Ashley Behrle - Public Relations Chair (excused)
Anne Burton - Advocacy Co-Chair (unexcused)
Eileen Riley – Secretary (unexcused)

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:50 PM.

MINUTES: Minutes from the September 19, 2023 meeting were reviewed.

MOTION: Ms. Reyner made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. 2nd Ms. Kolb. All in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

MOTION: Ms. Shultis made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report ending November 21,, 2023, in the amount of \$68,351,17. 2nd Ms. Aung. All in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.

PRESIDENT’S & VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

Great Greenbush Quest

- 91 teams, totaling 285 people of all ages, with a substantial turnout from East Greenbush (62%) and Schodack (15%).
- 79%, found the event as expected, 5% found it even better than anticipated.
- Mostly family teams participated, with most completing the quest in less than five days.

- All respondents were in favor of it becoming an annual event.
- They enjoyed exploring new local places and businesses, the excitement of the adventure, and spending quality time with family and friends.
- The police department's drone demonstration was a highlight of the finale

ADVOCACY REPORT:

- Summary presented of September Library Vote Outreach
- Plans for the 2024 Advocacy Day were outlined. We will plan on a letter writing campaign again. Advocacy Date is still TBD.

FUNDRAISING/BOOK SALES:

- We raised \$8,777 at the Fall Book Sale which is the highest post-pandemic amount.
- No charge for our discards as the Bulk Book Warehouse took our books and others took our tables. We will reach out to BBW in the future about our remains. We will have to replace boxes as a result but that is a minor charge compared to previous disposal expenses.
- Our ongoing sales, eBay sales, basket raffles, and tote sales are over \$15,000 for the year with a month to go.
- New baskets are the Simpsons and a kitchen-themed basket.
- Spring Sale will be April 12-14 and will feature the first Friends Only shopping time slot.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

- The End of the Year Appeal is going out via mail in the beginning of December to 470 homes.
- The Member Renewal letter will go out late January/early February. This will be the first time most of our members hear about the new Membership Tiers.

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT:

- No Report

BYLAWS AMENDMENT:

- Addition of Board positions dates of the term be added - specifically January 1 - December 31.
- Title Book Sale Chair changed to Fundraising Chair to reflect the scope of the position.
- Board term length increased to 2 years instead of one and staggering the positions so that the board only has 50% of its positions up for re-election each year.
- Combine Advocacy & Public Relations into a new title called Advocacy & Awareness with 2 co-chairs.

MOTION: Ms. Ryner made a motion to accept the Bylaws Amendments as presented.
2nd: Ms. Murphy. All in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.

2024 ELECTIONS:

The Nominating Committee presented the Endorsed Slate.

MOTION: Ms. Tagliento made a motion to accept the Endorsed Slate as presented.
2nd: Ms. Shultis. All in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Volunteer Thank You - November 30 - please RSVP to Susan Bell if you haven't already.
- January 16th is the 2024 Planning Meeting.

LIBRARY REPORT:

- Ms. Dugas Hughes shared a shortened version of the Strategic Plan is available at the Circulation Desk. Department Heads are now using the plan goals to direct their activities.
- Window repair will begin in April starting with the Children's Room.
- New chairs and tables are on order for some of the public spaces with more to follow over time. Library may request a grant for this purpose in January.
- CD's will be discontinued in April - any questions should be directed to Ms. Dugas Hughes.
- New admin started on November 15th and there are still 3 open positions.
- Staff is planning the Winter Reading Challenge and a new year-long reading challenge.
- There will be a Taylor Swift event on December 15th for all ages.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT:

- This is Lynne Ouderkerk's last meeting as President. We wish her well.
- Board will be looking for a new Trustee next year to fill Mari Harris' position as her term ends.
- Public hearing is being held tonight on remote attendance at Trustee's meetings and a partial tax credit for first responders.
- Budget vote passed in September.
- The Little Free Bookhouses will be transferred from the library to community stewards going forward.
- The Trustees will be voting on Amendment to Bylaws allowing officers to be elected in December instead of January.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION:

Ms. Price made a motion to adjourn at 6:45 PM. 2nd Ms. Reyner. All in favor. None opposed.
The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Ann Price