



10 Community Way | East Greenbush, New York 12061
www.eastgreenbushlibrary.org
Email: foegcl@gmail.com

Minutes of June 21, 2016

Present: Suzanne Aiardo, Anne Burton, Pat Cronin, Mary Davitt, Betty Giugno, Tom Grant, Mari Haris, Jill Dugas Hughes, Judith Maguire, Lynne Oudekerk, Michael Post, Jeff Pulver, Nan Twachtman, Kate Hafner

Minutes: Minutes of the Apr 12 regular meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Judith submitted the treasurer's report; the balance as of June 21 was \$43,146.64

Membership/Database:

We have 259 members so far for this year. 230 were regular renewals, 18 renewed this year who did not renew last year and we had 11 new members join. In response to the second renewal letter that went out June 1, we have about 30 more renewals to process. The total of donations/renewal at this time is \$7,800. There were 198 non-renewals.

Book Sale:

- We made the most on the sale that we have ever; although that must be offset somewhat by the new tables, coffee urns and advertising boards
- We had comments that the sorting out of books in poor condition made the sale much nicer.
- We are investigating a ramp type affair to protect the grass as we take the large carts to and from the shed.
- There was an unfortunate incident at the start of the spring Adult sale and we are going to consult with various people to find out if we need an organized crowd control plan, or if that would be an over-reaction to a one-time event.
- The Book Sale Committee will work with Jill and then make decisions on any changes to the sale to improve crowd control.

Grant Requests: A staff request for a grant of \$500 to purchase summer reading books for East Greenbush Schools was approved by a unanimous vote after discussion.

Public Relations:

Lois Hazelton will be taking over from Debbie Sgroi; they met to transfer notes and advice. Lois will be contacting JoAnn Jakiela to prepare the Friends articles for the Fall Newsletter---whose tentative due date for articles is August 18. We will want to publicize the Children's Festival (Sept 24), fall book sale, and provide a membership update.

Many people were pleased that the Friends Newsletter was incorporated into the Library Newsletter.

There is a problem with Friends who don't live in the East Greenbush mailing area not getting the newsletters; we are working on possibly sending individualized mail to those people or possibly a pdf version by email

Advocacy:

The Library Budget vote is Thursday September 8. Anne Burton is meeting with Patrick Cronin to get the “get out the vote” calling lists prepared for mailing in late August. She and Judith Maguire will see about being a presence at the Farmer’s Market occasionally.

Anne will also investigate getting tickets for Tanglewood---concerts in the Shed---this summer. She will be meeting with her contact on July 8.

Library news:

- Jill says Circulation is up 7% in the last 6 months, compared to 2% last year. Library programs are up 12% and attendance is up 17%.
- The Farmer’s Market began on Wednesday and will run weekly through October 5 (4-7pm). Farms can accept the senior farmer market nutrition checks (FMNP) and WIC.
- The new Audio Visual Equipment is up and running in the Multipurpose room, staff are taking training and it is expected to be put to good use with this week’s movie
- The income shortfall for next year is expected to be around \$24,000. One cause of the shortfall is the email program that now reminds patrons when their books are going to be due in two days, which reduces the amount of fines we used to collect. Additionally, the Schodack contract will be reduced this year, because Schodack usage as a % of the whole has decreased.
- While the budget is less than 1% higher, the tax Levy increase currently appears to be 2.5%.
- The building is getting older and there are many maintenance and updating technology projects that will have to be undertaken. This year 2 of the heat pumps were replaced. We are seeking grant funding to replace 4 each yearly of the 14 remaining, all of which are at or near to their life expectancies.
- This year also, the Heating Controls project was completed.
- The Strategic Planning Process is Continuing.
- In 4 more years the library mortgage will be paid off which will free up money for needed maintenance and updating projects.

Friends News:

- The new by-laws, having been circulated by e-mail, and posted on the website, were unanimously approved, and replace the 1998 by-laws.
- Thanks to all the Friends who worked so long on the book sale!

Next Friends Meeting: September 20 at 6:30 PM

Submitted by Kate Hafner