

Friends of the Library

January 29, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m. by President Donna Biondo. Members present were: Donna Biondo, Stephanie DuVall, Kelli Elmore, Deanne Foster, Kathleen Habermehl, Laura Hoquet, Mary Holtkamp, Jack Hunt, Rebecca Hunt, Jan Korneta, Michelle Perjak, Debbie Row, Jenny Schmidt, Dan Schumer, Emily Skowron, Crystal Synder, Diane Stechmesser, Eileen Traughber, and Vicki Wegener.

Reading of the Minutes: Minutes from the October 23, 2023 meeting were read by Secretary, Debbie Row. Debbie Row clarified that according to our by-laws the Vice-President does not automatically assume the President position as was stated in the minutes. With this amendment, Diane Stechmesser made a motion to accept the minutes as read, Dan Schumer seconded. Motion passed.

Correspondence: Debbie Row stated that a thank you note was sent to Stephanie Seper for the hot chocolate packets donated for the parade. Deborah Johnson has dropped her membership with the Friends at this time.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Barb Gerstenecker was absent. Members looked over the report. Debbie Row will check on the discrepancy of the \$70,000.00 from the checking account to the Edward Jones Account. It was supposed to be \$75,000.00 according to the October 23, 2023 report. Kathleen Habermehl made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report but check the deposit of \$90,526.17 in the Edward Jones account that includes the \$75,000.00 Treasury Bond proceeds. Diane Stechmesser seconded the motion. Motion passed. Debbie Row will check with Barb and report to the group via email.

Librarian's Report: Annette Bland was absent tonight. Crystal Snyder made her report. Crystal planned 131 programs for Fall 2023. Total attendance for the Fall programs were 2012 patrons, which includes children through adults. There were 60 Gingerbread Houses for the November program with 180 people attending and 268 children attended Santa's Visit. In the year of 2023, there were 340 programs with 7,913 in attendance for these programs. Take Your Child to the Library Day will be on Saturday, February 3 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. with some activities planned. The Summer Reading Program will be from 5/18/24-7/27/24 and the theme will be Adventure Begins at your Library; plans are in the works. June 8 will be a Local Author Showcase, this program was held two years ago. Crystal will be contacting authors in February to attend. Two new services, a large laminator and electric comb binding

machine will be available for patron use in the near future. There will be a charge for these services. A new educational online resource for families called Educate Station is now available to patrons. A special request from the Monroe County Christian School for a donation to their Silent Auction was discussed and denied by the Friends. A graph was presented to the Friends showing the results of the FOL Sponsorship Program since it was started in 2019. A total of 130 participants have been involved in this program since it began.

Old Business: It was asked if we have a new accounting firm for Friends. Barb Gerstenecker has been looking around. Since she was absent tonight, Debbie Row will find the answer and report to the group via email.

New Business: Rebecca Hunt explained the monthly donation boxes that she has been putting in the Library and that each month is a different charity. Officers were elected for the next two years: Kathleen Habermehl will serve as president, Emily Skowdron will be Vice-President, Kelli Elmore will serve as Secretary and Barb Gerstenecker will remain the treasurer.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 22, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment: Mary Holtkamp motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Diane Stechmesser at 8:15 p.m.. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Row, Secretary of the Friends of the Library