

**Friends of Webster Library
General Membership Minutes
September 21, 2022**

Present: Linda Wilson, Gail Dominik, Karen Stoddard, Elaine Davis, Marge Gascon, Ted Cole, Karen Mathis, Jenny Paxson, Sue Daley, Mehdi Araghi, Helen Kozinski, Richard Reid, Robyn Incardona, Peg Ehmann, Brenda Rubinstein, Eileen Brookins

Linda called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm.

Welcome and introductions: Linda welcomed members and asked new members to introduce themselves.

Secretary Report: There were no questions concerning the minutes from the July 20th meeting

Membership Report: Karen reported that since the July meeting there have been 5 new memberships including 2 lifetime memberships. There are currently 238 active members.

Treasurer's Report: Peg reported that the lobby store made \$3,090.16 for the month of August. As of this meeting the Friends have given the library \$25,000 this year. The Friends have been paying for the Book Page magazine directly. To ensure more accurate accounting the Library will now pay the subscription with money from the Friends.

Volunteering:

Farmer's market event was successful. The library had a table twice a month promoting the library. Staff and volunteers helped with crafts and interacted with community members. The library hopes to continue the program next year.

The Volunteering Committee will meet after the book sale. They will build a database of volunteer contact information and work on a plan to engage volunteers.

Little Free Libraries status of volunteers: The Friends will support five Little Free Libraries in the Webster area: Ridgecrest Park, Hickory Bark Trail, First Responders Park, Holt and Lake Rd, and the Holiday Inn. All the Little Free Libraries have a volunteer from the Friends to maintain them with books.

Discarding books from Sustainable Shelves: since the library has decided to discontinue the Sustainable Shelves program Robyn has been going through the discarded books. Any gently used books are packed for the book sale. All books in a condition that makes them unsellable are recycled.

Jenny reported that the fundraising letter the library will be sending out will be delayed due to the RPL sending their fundraising letter recently. Adam will alert the Friends when volunteers are needed to prepare them for mailing.

Meeting with Town Supervisor: Linda and Gail met with Adam and the Town Supervisor. The Town is proposing that the Friends, the Foundation, The Library Board of Trustees and the Town work together proactively to find avenues to support the library's collections.

Book Sale: The book sale committee met and began the necessary preparations for the sale.. Sign up genius went out to the membership, there are several areas that need volunteers especially shift chairs. Breakback Books is unable to pick up the leftover books at the end of the sale. Peg will contact Breakback Books for more details. Several possible solutions were discussed and will be looked into. We will no longer be able to store the Franzia boxes used at the book sale at the library. Volunteers may be needed to take the boxes to their homes between book sales.

Trustee Report: Eileen reported that the Town Supervisor met with the Trustee Board to propose working together with the Friends, the Foundation and the town to work together proactively to find avenues to support the library's collections. The town is working on a Comprehensive Plan and is looking for community input. The Preliminary Library Budget for 2023 has been passed by the town board. The public meeting will be held Oct 6th and the final budget adoption will be held on Oct 20th. Adam had recently attended a conference, The Harvard Future Libraries program and found it to be very rewarding. The summer reading program was a success with over 1,700 reading logs taken by patrons to track their reading. The Book Box program was a success. The library thanks the volunteers who helped to make this program a success. The library received a check from the United Church of Christ Caring Concerts for \$1,428.12. The library is very grateful for the UCC's continued support. September is Library Card Sign-Up month. The library is contacting "sleepy patrons" those who have let their cards expire, hoping to encourage them to return to the library. The trees in front of the library have been removed. The town determined that all the trees were dead or dying. The library is brainstorming ways to use this space. The Trustees reviewed the Anti-Nepotism policy, and the Art Display policy. They also considered a Trustee Education policy.

Additional Items: The library will give new residents a \$1 coupon for a purchase in the Lobby Store.

MCLS (Monroe County Library System) Friends will have a meeting Wed. Oct 12th from 7-8:30 at the Gates Library. Contact Gail if you are interested in going and she will make the reservations.

The next meeting of the general membership of the Friends of the Webster Public Library will be November 16, at 2 pm in the Community Room at the Library.

Respectfully submitted
Eileen Brookins
Secretary