Friends of the Webster Library
General Membership Minutes
May 17, 2023

Present: Linda Wilson, Peg Ehmann, Eileen Brookins, Mary Alice Moore, Brenda Rubinstien, Gail Dominik, Joyce Bradstreet, Mehdi Arah, Ruth Tetlow, Deb Suffeletto, Judi Gerew, Phyllis Duncer, Diane Jordan, Kim Hanna, Richard Reid

Guest: Jenny Paxson, Reader’s Discovery Librarian and Library Liaison

Linda called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm

Linda welcomed the new members.

Remembering Marge: The Friends of the Webster Public Library would like to remember a special Friend who recently passed away. Marge Gascon was a member of the Friends for over a decade. She served as membership chair, treasurer, president, volunteer chair, book sale day chair, on numerous committees, the Board of Directors and the Advisory Committee. Her kind, thoughtful, positive, committed leadership will be missed. We are grateful for her numerous contributions. Marge made a difference not only to the library but to the friends she made as a Friend. The FWPL Board will look into ways of honoring Marge’s memory at the library.

Minutes from March 16, 2023: The minutes for the March 16, 2023 meeting were accepted as written

Treasurer’s Report: Peg reported that the book sale’s total revenue was $8564.90. This included the sale of books, raffle money, donations, membership and expenses. The Lobby Book Store total sales for April was $2,360.86. The current cash on hand is $17,634.97. A check will be given to the library.

Book Sale: Peg and the Book Sale committee offered the following suggestions. Items to be purchased: lanyards for name tags, additional aprons, foam board to replace worn signs, and three additional 6 ft folding tables to be stored at Gail’s home. Gail has volunteered to be the new Book Sale Committee Chair. We would like to thank Peg for many dedicated years of heading the Book Sale Committee. A discussion was held concerning the need for volunteers for the book sale.

Vintage and Collectible Sale: The sale is set to commence June 3, 2023 from 10am to 1pm in the Community Room at the library. Approximately 140 books will be for sale at fixed prices from $10 to over $100.

Membership: Tami will continue to update the membership database with memberships acquired during the booksale. She is unable to continue due to other commitments. Gail has
volunteered to manage the membership committee until a new chair can be found. Anyone interested in being the chair of the membership committee should contact Linda.

**Lobby Store:** The Lobby Book Store continues to have strong sales. New members have joined the sorting team. The Lobby Book Store area is being updated. It was recently painted, signage will be updated and bookshelves in need of repair will be replaced.

**Volunteer Opportunities:** Volunteers have helped the library at 13 events this year. Upcoming opportunities to volunteer at events include manning a table at the Joe Obie Farm Market June 17, July 15, August 19 and September 16 from 9:30 to 10:30/11:00. A small folding table has been purchased and a bag of forms, flyers and other needed materials will be provided. Summer Reading Kick Off will be held June 21 from 5:30 to 7:30 at Charles E Sexton Park. A table will be manned by Ruth and Peg.

Jenny mentioned that the Friends are welcome to march in the July 13th Fireman’s parade with the library. If you are interested in any of these events please contact Gail.

It was suggested that a tablecloth be purchased for these and other events identifying Friends of the Webster Public Library.

**Library Report:** Jenny thanked the volunteers who worked at the Special Needs Fair and the Volunteer Fair. Their help was greatly appreciated. Both events were very successful and will be repeated again in the future. Beginning January 1, 2024, the library will be fine free. Hold fees and replacement of lost material fees will still be in effect.

**Other:** The Board of Directors for the Friends of the Webster Public Library are seeking new board members. The Board is responsible for making decisions for the Friends. The term is for 2 years with a two term limit. If you are interested in serving on the board please contact Linda.

The Friends newsletter will be published every other month starting in September.

The July General Membership meeting has been canceled. The next General Membership Meeting will be September 20, 2023 at 2pm in the Community Room at the library.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10pm

Respectfully submitted
Eileen Brookins
Secretary