Attendees: Steve Autenrieth., Laurie Fetten., Mary Fran Daley, Allison Porter, Cheryl Maddaluna, Kathy Peachy, Gerry O’Donovan, Jerry Clarke, Victoria Oliveira, Kathleen Doran, Carolyn Duff, Maria Parrella, Jerry Clark, Bob Baker, Anita Gandhi, Patrice Cummings.

Minutes for September recorded by Cheryl M

**Nominating Committee**-will vote on Carolyn Duffs board appointment at October meeting.

Thank you to all who participated in the summer programs, they were successful.

**Tax letters**-Maria P. volunteered to send out the letter. Fran can assist in auto populating part of the letter. Bulk donations are received November-February.

Board of Trustees-Fran will present strategic plan to board.

**Campaign Letter Task Force**- (Allison, Meghan, Nina) Letter is going to print in mid-October for November mailing. The letter will include a QR code to provide link for online donations. Any edits, please notify the task force by Oct 1.

**New Resident letters**-Cheryl M to finalize excel spread sheet with resident information by end of October.

August minutes approved.

**Upcoming events that need support**:

**Sundays at 3 Concerts**--Lennie sent an email on Sept 15th with sign up genius for Oct and Nov dates to volunteer and donate items. Laurie F will help Jerry.

**Public Relations**-Gladis, Victoria, Anita, Bob

**National Friends of Libraries Week**

**Support Shop and Sip-October 13th Rebecca Collection (Gladis)** Refreshment donations are needed.

**Spelling Bee** 10/14 (Kathy P) Sweety from Kumon has assisted with the registration and rules. Need 12-30 participants to run the event.

**Interview and Resume prep** 10/21 –(Anita) Will try for 24 kids to participate. A coach will be available to help with resumes. Trying to attract Bernards HS seniors. We are looking for more
volunteers to be interviewers from 10-2. Notes and prompts will be provided to volunteers. Registration went out on 9/15. The Hunt is the same day as our event.

**Wine Tasting** 10/16 (Patrick) Social affairs permit submitted to have alcohol. 56 Degrees to provide alcohol. MV to provide food. Black Rock is the sponsor. (Post meeting- approval of Social Affairs permit received)

**Budget vote**-approval needed to overspend approximately $500 on public relations and National Library Week. Motion was set and approved.

**Treasury Report**-Bob Baker Reports distributed for review and comment-matching donations are down this year.

**Library Update**-Fran

**Summer Reading Stats**- 90 events, 180 online readers, reading minutes logged-280,000
This was a threefold increase from prior participation.

**ESL Program**-screening of participants has begun. The program will begin at the library week of Sept 18th. 48 people applied for the program. Program needs volunteers, please contact Fran. Program will be offered Monday and Wednesday nights through May 2024. Training classes will be provided in October and November. Kathy P. expressed an interest in volunteering.

**Executive Summary 2024 Draft Budget**-Gerry discussed. The draft budget was approved at the FBL August 2023 meeting. The budget approval is for the FBL fundraising and activities. It was noted on the summary we had an 82% increase over the 2023 budget for printed and online material.

**Newsletters**-we get back about 20-25% due to bulk mailing. They are reused as handouts at the library.

**Fundraising**-do we want another fundraiser between November and March?

**Mini Golf Day**-tentative date of Feb 3, 2024. We may look into other vendors, holes/obstacles were a bit tired from the current vendor. Fran to check with the Bernards Township as to what they used for their event.

**Youth**-(Allison)

**Movie Fundraiser**. Best price Harvey would give is $10PP for movie only. Popcorn and drink would increase cost to $12.50. Discussed what a family would consider reasonable to pay.

**Library Week**-Friendship Bracelets will be offered for a craft. Need 1 or 2 volunteers to help at Farmer’s Market on Oct 7th 9 to 1. (Nancy, Bob, Gladis, and Kathy will be there as well)
Public Comments

Library Foundation - Patrice Cummings thanks us for the donations for the mystery bags. They were able to provide 7 bags.

50/50 Raffle $10 tickets. Will be drawn on September 23. Current value is over $11,000.

Grand Raffle Fundraiser is 3 prizes. Tickets are $100 each. 1 in 300 chance to win Drawn on 9/23.

Junior Volunteer Recognition Day September 30th. (Victoria and Anita)
Deadline for attendees is 9/20. Small gift card of $5 each from Starbucks or Bookworm will be given to approximately 30 volunteers.

Next board meeting is October 4th.