

April 10, 2024

7:00 start

Attendees: Jerry, Meghan, Allison, Bob, Nancy V, Gladis, Victoria, Mary Fran, Carolyn, Elizabeth S, Gerry, Kathleen D., Shikha, Nina

President's remarks

- **Operating Manual updates**
 - Friends to review; committee chairs look at their sections and share any updates
- **Board of Trustees-**
- **Who wants to help with this year's campaign letter** (start in June)
 - Meghan, Allie
- Approval for renewal of gambling license for raffle events

Vice President Remarks- Vacant- Need to fill this year, 2 co vice presidents?

Foundation meeting Apr 9th- Nancy

Foundation meeting May 14th- Cheryl

Recording Secretary- Nina

February minutes: Nina to share for records

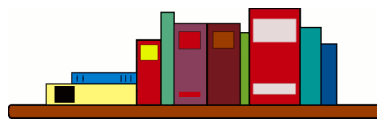
Correspondence – Nancy G

Treasurer's report- Bob Baker

- Net \$17,000 from Mini Golf
- Getting finances to CPA to do IRS tax filing my May (might do extension this year – no cost)

Library Update- Fran

- Thank you for all Friends have been doing
- Borough has moved budget
- State report due for NJ State Library in March in which statistics compiled from prior year including: circulation up 10%, door counter up 15%, summer reading up 180%!
- Summer Reading Program planning: theme is "Adventure"
- Restrooms under construction, supposed to be completed by 6/2



- Team working hard to curate lots of museum passes; patrons will be able to reserve passes for specific days in the future (has significantly increased use at other libraries); staff getting trained on how to help people make reservations and share resources with community
- Makers Week: 380 people came in for activities across week (14 programs), all were a success and enjoyed.
- Capital Plan has been created alongside board; looking at improved children's spaces and meeting spaces, energy sustainability improvements. Organization putting potential plans together for review.
- Bringing in Mahjong programming which is very popular at other libraries.

Reports by committee chairs-

Programs Adult- Jerry

- Beatles booked for May 19: Jerry will work with Cheryl and Laurie to organize volunteers. Will need to get lunch. Nancy and Victoria available.
- Mark calendars for Senior Breakfast and show June 7th: all hands on deck so save the date if possible

Programs- Youth- Meghan & Allison

- o Makers week: thank you all who participated!
- o Summer Reading: Allison will send emails soon for sign-ups. This year, program will be on different online platform – will need computers at kick-off to have people sign up. Scheduled for windows at 10AM and 3PM on 6/19. Theme is “adventure” so kids will have “passports” and can get stickers; talking to local businesses to give out stickers. If anyone has ideas for places around town (like the pool) where we can encourage “adventuring” for summer reading, please share. End of August (Wed 8/21) will be summer reading finale / ice cream social, plan for 4:30-5pm.

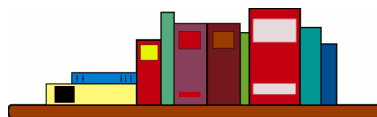
Fundraising- vacant- **Need new fundraising co-chairs!**

- o Did not meet in March, will get together for this month.
- o Repeat smaller events? (same discussion with PR committee)
 - o Shop, Sip, Support? PR is investigating
 - o Wine Tasting with charge? Yes

Public Relations- Gladis

- o Outcome of planning meeting

1. Beatles- in second half of month:
 - post SM- Gladis
 - Flyers- Laurie



Announcement for paper- Anita
Library website- Gladis

2. October 20-26 is national Friends week. We will celebrate over the month, with these potential events/activities. **(We will talk about this at a later meeting)**

- a. Spelling Bee- Nancy and Kathy. Sunday afternoon might work better than Saturday this year.
- b. Bookmark contest- Nina
- c. Book riddle treasure hunt- Nina
- d. Support, shop, sip- Gladis to check with Sharon (targeting 10/17)
- e. Wine Tasting- Patrick, Nancy (thinking we will have sponsoring again)
- f. Diane Lang- speaker- Gladis researching
- g. Sound Meditation- Laurie researching
- h. Kids Art show- generally seems like a good idea, group will need to do planning. Allison and Meghan to do more research and flesh out some ideas for May meeting. Fran happy to help. Would need to decide on medium (could have people pick up small canvases and drop them back off). Walls are reserved for month of October in community rooms...check on this. Other ideas: everyone who participates is entered to win gift cards from local businesses; people who come to library vote on favorites; engage school art teachers; have snacks and small reception for participants; students play music.

Note: Lord Striling non juried show is in March/April.

<https://www.bernards.org/government/documents/department-documents/recreation/2153-community-art-show-entry-form/file>

teens art festival summer: <https://www.co.somerset.nj.us/government/public-works/cultural-heritage/teen-arts-program>
I saw no other art shows in this area

Main Street B Ville Car show 6/2 we do not see the benefit of participating in the car show (6/3 train station) - nobody has asked us but want to be prepared with answer. If others want to do it, that is fine.

Nominating- Nancy G

Volunteer Recognition- Victoria

- Staff Appreciation during Staff Training on 5/10. Friends to provide lunch; invite went out this morning. All set on volunteers.

Public Comments

Foundation- Shikha

- April 3 was Library Giving Day



- Now working on 2024 annual campaign letter, hope to have it out by May 1 to all residents in Bernardsville & Far Hills
- Fall fundraiser will be a 50/50 (Foundation got own gambling license) to be mailed out, aiming for 6/15. Also mailing out grand prize raffle tickets at same time -- will be a Broadway show, a golf event, and a Bernards Inn "staycation." Plan to draw last Saturday in September.
- Hoping to do more corporate and matching gifts

Old Business/New Business- None.

Next Board of Directors: **May 1**

Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library Key Dates 2024

Meetings: Jun 5, **July 3 (or 10th?)**, Aug 7, Sept 4, Oct 2, Nov 5

Concerts: Beatles booked for May 19 -- will want to do big PR campaign.

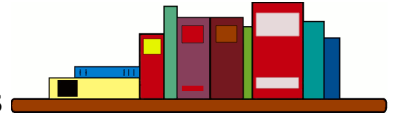
- o Fred Miller booked for June 7 (Senior Breakfast), Gershwin tribute
- o Harpist booked for October 6
- o Gerard & Diane for November 17

Annual Campaign: November 2024

National Friends of the Library Week: October 20-26, 2024

Meeting agenda topic key dates:

1. **April**
 - PR committee on 2024 Friends of the Library week events-
 - Volunteer committee- Junior Recognition award planning- moving back to June or staying Sept?
 - Fundraising committee 2024 plans formalized
2. **May**
 - PR committee on 2024 Friends of the Library week events- finalize main event, seek sponsors
 - Volunteer recognition event
 - Programs- Senior breakfast planning
 - Public Relations- Newsletter July/Aug- Ask Fran is we still are doing ?
3. **June**
 - Junior Recognition award event
 - Senior breakfast
 - Campaign task force preliminary planning
4. **July**
 - Fund raising update
 - Public Relations- Newsletter Sept/Oct
 - Friends Celebration task force plans formalized
5. **August**
 - Finance-Initial Budget development



- Finalize annual letter
- Finalize campaign details/ letter/listing
- 6. September
 - Finance- Preliminary Budget 2025 presented
 - Nominating committee- initial discussion officers and committee chairs for 2019
 - Public Relations- Newsletter Nov/Dec (this is the annual letter)
- 7. October
 - Finance- Budget 2024 finalized
 - Campaign letter sent
 - Friends week celebration
 - Nominating committee- officers and committee chairs for 2024 finalized
- 8. November
 - Annual meeting
 - Budget approval
 - Committee chairs
 - Officers