

August 7, 2024

7:00 start- ZOOM

Attendees: Nancy V, Nina A, Kathy P, Nancy G, Victoria O, Carolyn D, Laurie F, Elizabeth S, Cheryl M, Meghan S, Gladis M, Allison P, Jerry C, Kathleen D, Anita G, Maria P, Mary Fran D, Kim D, Alicia T

President's remarks-

Welcome Kim Donaghy

Nominations: Nancy G

Board candidate: Kim Donaghy

- Motion to welcome Kim to the Friends seconded and approved by all in meeting, and will be supporting with social media

Kim is a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) and holds educational certificates in Elementary and Special Education, in addition to her LDT-C. She has been working with individuals diagnosed with autism since 2006. Prior to joining her current company Every Piece Counts in 2020, Kim held several positions at a highly regarded private ABA school program, including Director of Early Intervention and Outreach. Her experience providing clinical services in private, inclusive, and home settings afforded her the opportunity to utilize a wide range of skills and experience many different learning needs. As Clinical Director, Kim oversees the day-to-day administrative and clinical operations. As the head of the company, she has her hands in every aspect of the business, including finances, HR and managing their social media accounts and community presence. She works closely with other team members to ensure client outcomes are met, staff feel supported, and that EPC's mission is achieved throughout the organization. Kim has lived in Bernardsville since 2021 with her husband Ben and their two energetic daughters, Fiona & Elle. When not working, she likes to spend time with her family eating Penguin Ice Cream, sampling different restaurants in the area, reading and relaxing after a busy week.

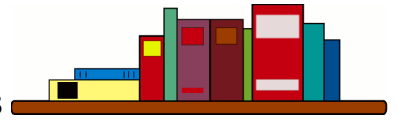
President's remarks continued

Board of Trustees- Nancy V

- The bathroom and water damage renovations are finally ending! Looking forward to the updated suggestions recommended library consultants, Creative Library Concepts to be presented to the Board in September.

Public Comments- Foundation- Patrice (email update)

The Endowment topped \$750,000 in July. Our long-term goal is to reach 2.5 million to be able to secure the long term financial stability of the Library. With the library's 25th anniversary coming up in 2025, weeks are speaking to our major donors about the possibility of making a 5 year pledge to help the Foundation meet this lofty goal for the Endowment by 2030.



We are selling 50/50 Raffle tickets and Grand Raffle tickets throughout the summer until Sept. 1. The total 50/50 pot is currently up to \$5,000. Sales of the Grand Raffle tickets are coming in daily. Tickets for both were mailed in June to everyone in Bernardsville, Far Hills and on our Foundation donor mailing list.

We are getting ready to host a major donor gratitude event on Thursday, September 12, from 6:30-8:30 after library closing hours. This is a by invitation event with light refreshments, drinks, music, tours of the library and a special presentation by local historian and author, W. Barry Thompson.

We have started to meet individually with our major donors to nurture relationships and build understanding and advancement for the library.

Thank you all for supporting our wonderful library!

Committee Openings: Status

- Finance chair/co-chair- Bob will assume chair as an interim step. This is not a viable long-term solution, we will continue to look to fill role. If anyone is interested, please reach out to Bob and Nancy. Finances are in great position, and budget is being worked on and will be ready to be presented in November.
- Fundraising chair/co-chair – Carolyn and Jerry
- Public Relations co-Chair- Kim will join the PR committee and assist Gladis on social media
- VP or co VPs

Membership drive-

- Can you refer anyone?
- Social Media- in bubble, on Facebook
- Asking librarians for leads (both Nancy's joined the board due to librarians recommending the Friends to us)

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

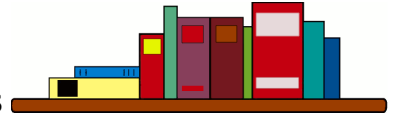
- Foundation meeting August 13th- Cheryl will attend

Recording Secretary- Nina

- July Minutes approved

Correspondence – Nancy G

- None



Treasurer's report- Bob Baker

- Planning to buy book bags

Library Update- Fran

- Full swing on summer reading, programs (many sponsored by Friends) have been very well received and community has enjoyed them. Looking forward to renovations being completed soon.

Reports by committee chairs-

Finance- Bob

- Draft budget- attached for your review. Will have time to talk about it in detail in September and October in time to finalize for November. Please send any updates to Bob/Gerry.

Programs- Youth- Meghan & Allison

- Update on the summer activities and art show

We've had 2 traveling storytimes so far – Kiwanis Park had 66 attendees and the pool had 109 this morning!!! Thanks to all for volunteering.

- o Sterling stables - 8/15 Kathy & Victoria
- o End of Summer Celebration - 8/21 Nancy G, Victoria, Kathy, and Elizabeth

Art Show- update

Timeline (confirmed with library):

Tues, 9/3 First day to pick up canvas

Sat, 9/28 -Open art day at library for participants to work on canvases there if desired (10:30 am - noon) Last day to pick up canvas (or when they run out)

Sat, 9/28 First day to drop off finished canvas at library

Sun, 10/6 Last day to drop off finished canvas at library

Mon, 10/7 First day of voting

Thurs, 10/24 Last day to vote

Sat, 10/26 Artists' reception in community room (11 am - noon)

Age Categories: 0-3 years, 4-7, 8-12, 13-18, 19+

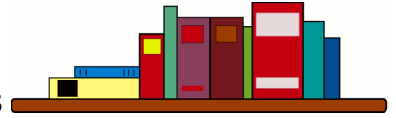
Prize Categories:

Library Staff Choice

People's Choice

Critic's Choice - *this will be Alisa Donahue, who had the long term sub position at Bedwell last year - she is confirmed. Alisa will also help us with marketing materials for the event.*

- Each of these 3 prizes awarded in each age category (total of 15 prizes) + Best in Show (canvas with the most votes across all categories)



Next Steps:

- Design advertising materials - working on painted canvases for easel display at the library, to be converted to printed flyers and electronic images
- Work with local businesses to post flyers/handouts (Tons of Toys, Creative Cube, Blue Starfish, Bookworm)
- So far, have spent ~\$160 on 120 canvases and empty paint pots. Don't anticipate a ton more expenses for materials, but will be some additional purchases for the reception (food, etc)

Volunteer Recognition- Victoria

Junior recognition- Sept (final date TBD – Fran will follow up soon to confirm)

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

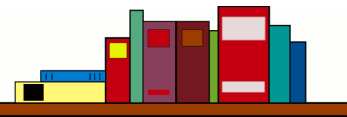
Campaign committee draft for your review - Meghan, Allison, Carolyn, Nina
Suggestion received for trivia night – likely too far along to shift this year, but we will plan to do this next year

Public Relations- Gladis

- Should we put a message out on NextDoor letting people know about open committee positions?
- Fire department wants to doing a fun “hose spray” event and wanted to know if library/Friends wanted to be involved – Kathy will follow up with more details to see if we are interested. Maybe it could be part of Centennial celebration at polo grounds in September? Could also plan ahead to the summer (fun for graduating seniors)
- October 20-26 is national Friends week.
- PR committee should meet to discuss activities and promotion of events:
 - Paper for events, ads for Shop/sip, posters/flyers, other
 - Check w/ library for events that need be signed up for and coordinate posting on social media to be timed accordingly

National Friends of the Library week October20-26

October – all month- Display mini art canvases.



October 17- Thursday night- Support, Sip and Shop

Cost: Ad in paper to promote or promote with Mainstreet B Ville? may not be worth the cost to buy ad, but purpose of event is supporting local businesses and feedback from last year was that we should publicize more. Also do Friday folders and explore putting it on the town website. Social media is likely capturing many potential participants.

- Gladis- work with Sharon on businesses to be included? Gladis will follow up this month/early September to confirm and finalize details.
- Note, Main Street Bville event is cancelled for this date

October 20- Sunday- Spelling Bee

Pat McMillin- Middle School- she will help and be a judge.

Sweetie Janai- Kumon- she will help and be a judge, maybe donation.

Cost- Prizes, food (maybe have sponsorship from Kumon) \$400

Meeting: August 8th. Flyer attached (open at 1pm, start at 1:30, lasts about 1.5 hours)

Anita will support if volunteers are needed

October 21- Monday OPEN

October 22- Tuesday Singing Bowl Meditation \$300

6:30-7:30 Tues Oct 22 & Limit to 20-25 (have to lie down)

- Have promotional social media materials ready to go and can begin to publish, coordinate w/ library to confirm when it will be on library website (should be around end of August)

October 23- Wednesday- Diane Lang Positive Aging \$350

Life expectancy has improved during the past couple of decades. Most of us will look forward to twenty or more years in retirement. How we choose to address our aging bodies and minds during this time will be up to us. Our beliefs on aging play a huge role in our happiness and health. In this workshop we will learn: -Ways to thrive at any age and gain perspective on the aging process. -The truths and myths of aging. -Cultivate a positive approach to our future years and see the new possibilities that this stage of life can bring

October 24 Thursday- Wine Tasting? There will be some cost associated with the event.

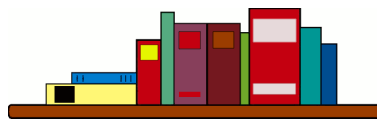


Tentative- \$30 per person, sponsor

Nancy & Patrick – Updated flyer attached, fee based, only 6 wines (instead of 8), consider raffle for bottles used in centerpiece. How does the library collect fees at time of registration?

- Fran and Nancy to discuss payment

October 25 Friday- Miss Jolie for a fun creative Halloween program 3:30



October 26 Saturday – Arts Reception? Prizes, food/drinks, fun activities?

Ongoing activities (not date driven)

- Bookmark contest- Nina
- Book riddle treasure hunt- Nina

-Nina to present more formal ideas and mock-ups at September meeting

- Public Art voting?

Programs Adult- Jerry

Harpist -October 6

There were a lot of cookies left over from Beatles - Nancy V will bring all the snacks to this event. Will do additional planning in September.

Mariachi band at library was great – should consider having them again in future

Mini Golf early decision review- Nancy

See listing & drafts

Old Business/New Business- None.

Next Board of Directors: Sept 4

Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library Key Dates 2024

Meetings Oct 2, Nov 5

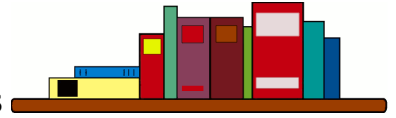
Concerts: Gerard & Diane for November 17

Annual Campaign: November 2024

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

Meeting agenda topic key dates:

1. **August**
 - Volunteer committee- Junior Recognition award planning- Sept?
 - Finance-Initial Budget development
 - Finalize annual letter
 - Finalize campaign details/ letter/listing
2. **September**
 - Finance- Preliminary Budget 2025 presented



- Nominating committee- initial discussion officers and committee chairs for 2025
- 3. October
 - Finance- Budget 2025 finalized
 - Campaign letter sent
 - Friends' week celebration
 - Nominating committee- officers and committee chairs for 2025 finalized
- 4. November
 - Annual meeting
 - Budget approval
 - Committee chairs
 - Officers

Attach to August meeting agenda: July minutes, , draft budget?, spelling bee flyer, Wine tasting flyer, early action mini golf, flyer, tiering, form, letter. Draft campaign letter