

July 10, 2024

7:00 start- Community Room

Attendees: Maria P, Kathy P, Gerry D, Meghan S, Nina A, Nancy V, Mary Fran D, Alison P, Kathleen D, Jerry C, Bob B, Gladis M, Carolyn D, Alicia O (guest), Anita G, Victoria O, Laurie F

President's remarks- Nancy G

Thank you to Gerry for all his efforts while on the Friends. He and Seos are moving to Raleigh and will be leaving us in August. We wish you the best

Board of Trustees- Nancy V

- The focus of the board continues to be on the capital plan including both the planned renovations of the bathroom and the renovations because of the water damage. Kudos to the library team for managing through the ordeal with minimal disruption. Looking forward to the initial suggestions recommended library consultants, Creative Library Concepts to be presented to the Board in July.

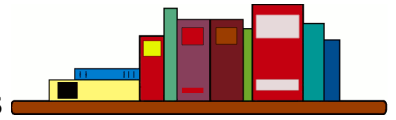
Public Comments- Foundation- Patrice

- Sent out annual appeal letter in June; at 75% of fundraising goal. 50/50 and grand raffle tickets are in the mail and they will be sold every Saturday at Farmer's Market and Starbucks. Fundraiser at Cycle Bar Saturday 9/21 (50 participants max for suggested donation of \$50). Foundation holding special private event and presentation at library Thursday 9/12 to thank major donors. Piloting and launching corporate sponsorship program through Peapack Gladstone Bank with different levels and rewards.

Openings:

Executive committee met to discuss the openings we have for the following committees:

- Finance chair/co-chair
- Fundraising chair/co-chair
- Public Relations co-Chair
- VP or co VPs



Any interest?

Finance Chair- Interim plan to be discussed

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)

Bylaw revisions- Vote

Thanks to Carolyn for the refreshing and updating of the Bylaws.

- Carolyn proposed motion to vote on bylaws as amended. Laurie and Bob seconded. All in favor, no opposed. Vote passes and amended bylaws are accepted.

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

Foundation meeting August 13th

Recording Secretary- Nina

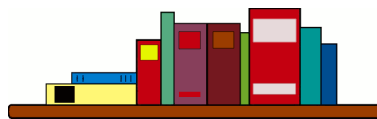
- June Minutes – no revisions.

Correspondence – Nancy G

N/A

Treasurer's report- Bob Baker

- Treasurer's report shared for discussion during meeting
- NJ Charitable Registration has been filed.
- Fidelity accounts have been rebalanced according to investment plan.
- Accountable chairs and co-chairs of committees to take a look at budget vs actuals and provide input if we expect to need more funds in any area for the remainder of 2024.
- Library to consider aligning 5-year capital plan and tie in Blumenschein fund. Gerry proposes tying investment to specific capital plan that the library anticipates needing in next few years so funds are designated/guaranteed. We can make decisions about investment shifts after planning board further finalizes long-term strategic capital plans for library.



- Gerry also proposes breaking up two funds, and that we don't spend in excess of 1/8th of total unrestricted funds (some of these should be considered emergency funds for worst-case scenarios).
- Anita raised that Wegmans and Wawa have Community Giving Foundations that other library boards leverage. We have not explicitly attempted because they are not community-based, but could be something for Foundation to look into (though it may exclude endowment).

Library Update- Fran

- Library flyer will be coming with town tax mailer next week, highlighting all events and services including electronic resources (e-books are very popular!) and launching Library Café effort (direct outreach to Spanish-speaking community) via partnership with schools and other community organizations.
- Still a lot going on with construction, library staff have been working very hard through difficult circumstances and Friends give them much gratitude!
- Many interesting inquiries and highlights from Local History room – please direct anyone interested to dig in to the amazing treasures in that room!

Reports by committee chairs-

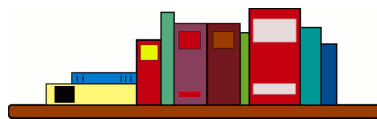
Programs Adult- Jerry

Senior Breakfast and show June 7th

- Thank you all for your participation. About 40 attendees, was great to have more local library patrons. Much more intimate this year because it was focused on local community. Smaller group may be appropriate for next year.
 - Thank you to library staff who were a huge help during event. Community in Crisis space was great as well.
 - Explore any considerations about timing around February (i.e. should it be a fall or summer event, are there other events occurring in the community, etc).
 - Take aways: Cater some of the foods eggs/ bacon/ fruit salad, etc. The rest we can purchase directly, limiting need for Friends offerings. For catering: larger portions, less variety. We would need to increase the budget for this – **committee to plan out and account for shifts in next year's budget.**
- Next concert is harpist 10/6

Programs- Youth- Meghan & Allison

- Update on the summer activities and art show



- Kiwanis Park Storytime 7/18 Carolyn & Allie
 - Pool time Storytime 8/1 Meghan & Laurie
 - Sterling stables 8/15 Kathy & **Victoria**
 - End of Summer Celebration- 8/21 Nancy G, Victoria, Kathy, and Elizabeth
- Buddy the Bookworm – about 20 local businesses participating, Buddy the Bookworm image will be somewhere in their stores and if kids find it, they get a sticker and get credit in summer reading program. If you know of any business that is not currently participating but may want to, let Allison know because they can still be added. Was a lot of work to set up, but feedback so far indicates it's the type of program businesses love because it's low-lift and brings in business.
 - Art Show- need plan soon so we can start to purchase and share canvases. Will have more details at next meeting. Have met with library staff to discuss organization and will continue making progress over the course of the summer.

Nominating- Nancy G

Followed up with woman who donated and never heard back.

Volunteer Recognition- Victoria

- Junior recognition
- Fran to give Victoria final date in September and decide on prizes (leaning towards sticking with a raffle)

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

- Campaign committee draft of the letter by August meeting- Meghan, Allison, Carolyn, Nina
- Don't need to send to printer until October so will have time for feedback

Public Relations- Gladis

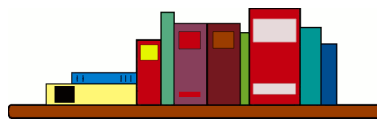
- October 20-26 is national Friends week. We will celebrate over the month, with these potential events/activities:

Current lineup: See tentative schedule

National Friends of the Library week October 20-26

October – all month- Display mini art canvases. Will need to publish info (social medias, flyer at library and schools) in September so people can come get canvases.

Send sign up info for events about 2 weeks before.



October 17- Thursday night- Support, Sip and Shop

Cost: Ad in paper to promote or promote with Mainstreet B Ville? Will add to budget.

October 20- Sunday- Maybe Spelling Bee

- Pat McMillin- Middle School- she will help and be a judge.
- Sweetey Janai- Kumon- she will help and be a judge, maybe donation.
- Kathy to do what she did last year (random sort of 1200 words, can use words we didn't get to last year as a starting place)
- Cost- Prizes, food (maybe have sponsorship from Kumon) **\$400**

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)

October 23 (6:30pm) - 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.

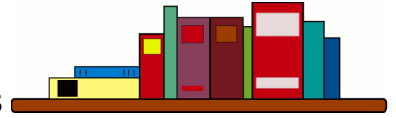
Tentative- \$25 per person

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
- Public Art voting?



Next Board of Directors: **August 7**

Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library Key Dates 2024

Meetings Sept 4, Oct 2, Nov 5
Concerts: Harpist booked for October 6
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 2019
 - Public Relations- Newsletter Nov/Dec (this is the annual letter)
3. **October**
 - Finance- Budget 2024 finalized
 - Campaign letter sent
 - Friends week celebration
 - Nominating committee- officers and committee chairs for 2024 finalized
4. **November**
 - Annual meeting
 - Budget approval
 - Committee chairs
 - Officers