



FRIENDS OF THE
WEARE PUBLIC LIBRARY
P.O. Box 227
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MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 26, 2023

Called to order 6:30 p.m.

In attendance: Nancy Zienkiewicz-president, Suzanne Belanger-vice president, Helen Dutton-treasurer, Debbie Farr-secretary, Lea Anderson-Smith-Member at Large, Lisa Johnson, Dianne Hathaway, Lindsey Hillard, Heleen Kurk

Library Staff: Clay Kriese, Karen Metcalf

Approval of 7-25-23 draft minutes - approved - **M/S/P**

Reports:

President -

- Nancy thanked everyone for being here;
- Gave a brief summary of the 50/50 raffle & noted that after our last meeting, the Board decided to go with \$2/ticket instead of \$1 as passed at the July meeting.
- She thanked the three people on the nominating committee (Debbie, Helen, Connie Evans).
- Nancy did additional research on the gaming/casino process - will discuss further in old business;
- We now have the form for the Rotary grant - the original one went to Dena but it was never forwarded;
- 76 Facebook followers; striving for 100;
- Our Little Library is now formally listed - took several steps;
- Nancy attended Sept. 7 trustees meeting - they are working on details for fundraising for the library expansion

Treasurer - current balance is \$6,421.19. At Old Home Day, the sales of popcorn & water brought in \$124 with expenses of \$57.50 and we made an additional \$164 for the 50/50 raffle. We're running ahead of budget. Some outstanding bills but not much. For example, we have not yet received, or paid for, the telescope. They're behind on getting those orders fulfilled.

Announcements - Thelma sent a thank-you for her retirement party

Old Business:

1. **Membership & Above & Beyond updates** - no update as there was only 1 recent one.
2. **Events**

- a. Old Home Day Raffle results - raffle was basically successful; 2 people per shift. Marge Gaffney was the winner. The organizers felt overall attendance was down though. This event is held every other year so it will occur again in 2025. Those who worked the table noted there were lots of questions about what a 50/50 raffle was. Giving away free books with tickets worked well. Dianne took any left-over books to Goffstown Library for their sale in October. Popcorn sale was great, mostly due to Clay's family who sold to people waiting for the play. The group did feel it was good publicity for the Friends even though it wasn't a huge financial gain.
 - b. Weare Middle School Fall Fest, sponsored by the PTO, will be Saturday, Oct. 28 from 12-4 p.m. in the school parking lot. There's not much additional info yet. We discussed choosing a vendor space (\$25 per spot) since doing the trunk or treat location last year didn't allow for a lot of discussion with parents. After much discussion several times throughout our meeting, we decided we will not participate. The library will be participating in the Trunk or Treat section but rather than using Friends' funds to purchase candy, several members volunteered to donate candy to the library to take.
 - c. Christmas Party - sponsored by Weare Historical Society, Sun., Dec. 3. We tabled this for now as we don't have much info. Clay will reach out to find out more details.
 - d. Additional fall fundraisers - the group decided we wouldn't do anymore this year but Nancy would appreciate any ideas for fundraisers for next year. Board members will analyze the list put together earlier in the year.
3. **Casino donations to non-profits** - Nancy covered a handout she put together giving us full info on what we would need to do. We need to start the process now if we decide we want to do this because info needs to be completed/submitted by July 2024 and there's quite a bit of paperwork. Helen & Suzanne will work on this to see if it's workable.
 4. **Library wish list for passes** - the group decided to review the full list at January's meeting so we're not doing piecemeal decisions for just a few passes here & there.

Library Updates

1. Summer program results - total of 65 programs over the 8 weeks (kickoff to finale); total of 1056 participants, 46 family & child-oriented activities; 19 for adults. So, 80% of participation is family & child programming. Reading - 174 kids signed up (promoted well through elementary school plus Karen went into all but one of the classrooms). 39,684 minutes read by kids; top reader read 4800 minutes. But only 40% of the kids that signed up actually brought in a log of their reading. Everyone thanked Karen for all her work this summer! To put together the budget for next year, Karen will send to Helen some preliminary costs for the anticipated summer program. Karen commented

that since not many Friends are able to make it to their events, she is looking at doing events that don't require as many adults to assist.

2. Library wish list - telescope is in progress. Top on the wish list is replacing adult bookshelves (upstairs) due to safety issues of them toppling over. The group felt strongly, however, that this kind of expense needed to be under the purview of the Library Trustees, with money coming from the town budget. Separate from the wish list, Karen requested \$150 for gingerbread houses during December. **M/S/P.**

New Business:

1. Nominating Committee - 2024 slate of officers -
 - a. Nancy - President
 - b. Suzanne - Vice President
 - c. Helen - Treasurer
 - d. Debbie is no longer able to serve as Secretary. Lindsey is considering running for the position.
 - e. Lea - Member-at-Large
 - f. Dianne will do a WITW requesting officer volunteers.
2. Rotary grant - application due by Sept. 29 - we will submit it for \$575 for 4-6th grade STEM kit on the library wish list. Lea & Suzanne will complete and submit the form.
3. Brief discussion on the Friends partnering with the library to do some sort of 'gala' next year for library week (April 2024) rather than 2 separate events honoring directors and staff as we did this year. We will discuss more at the January meeting. Karen will look to see if there's a theme for library week 2024.
4. Annual Meeting - at our next meeting, the annual meeting, we will elect officers, present the 2024 budget, and look at a general calendar of events. Everyone attending is requested to bring whatever they'd like to eat (snacks). We'll take a photo of all Friends and the new officers at that meeting.
5. We'll need to look at setting up some sort of schedule for upkeep for the bulletin board.
6. Lindsey is working on updating the tri-fold brochure. The officers will discuss whether we add a line item in the budget for any future printing.

Adjourned 8:22 p.m.

No October meeting

Next meeting: ANNUAL MEETING November 28 - 6:30 p.m. - Sawyer Room

Action	Who	By When
Review requirements for casino process	Helen, Suzanne	Nov. meeting
Donate candy to the library for Trunk or Treat at the Middle School	All members	No later than Oct. 27 to the library
WITW post	Dianne	

Rotary Grant Submission	Lea, Suzanne	Sept. 29
Updating brochure	Lindsey	
Develop proposed 2024 Budget & Calendar	Board	Present at Annual Meeting (Nov. 28)
Little Library	Lindsey	Oct-Dec
Little Library	Nancy	Jan-March
Little Library	Brenda	April-June