



Friends of Marcellus Free Library Meeting – 1:00 pm
Friends Community Room – October 16, 2024

President Jackie Smith called the meeting to order at 1:03pm.

Attendance:

Jackie Smith, President; Domenick Patti, Vice President; Jim Shake, Treasurer; Michele Merwarth, Recording Secretary; Karen Pollard, Director; Audrey Kearney, Director

Absent: Donna Merchant, Deputy Treasurer; Recording Secretary, vacant

Total membership present: 32

Program:

President Jackie Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked people to sign in and report any volunteer hours.

- Brigid Farrell, the new Library Assistant Director was introduced.
- Special guest NYLA representatives Lisa Wemett, Meg Van Patten, and Terry Mulee were in attendance. Lisa Wemett gave the background of the FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award which has been presented since 1993. Meg VanPatten spoke about Daniel W. Casey and his part in library advocacy. The award then was presented to Paulette Quinn, and she talked about her history with the Friends of Marcellus Free Library and what it means to her.
- 2023 -2024 Impact report was given by Jackie Smith. It is a Power Point presentation that can be printed out and used as talking points when recruiting new members during NFLW.
- Five volunteers were recognized for having the most hours worked over the year. Those recognized for volunteer hours were Wayne Blann, Susan Blann, Deb Fratter, Gloria Weeks & Betsy Shake. The Board members and committee chairs were also recognized.

Reports:

- Secretary: Michele Merwarth made a motion that the minutes be accepted as read and Domenick Patti seconded the motion. The motion was passed.
- Treasurer's Report: Jim Shake presented the report for September through October 16, 2024, including bank balances. The statement will be filed as read. He presented the revised projections for the year and how they compared historically.
- Membership: Michele Merwarth reported that there are now 128 members.

- Advocacy: Domenick Patti gave the advocacy report. He spoke on Banned Book week and that 1984 remains in the top 10. He has plans to revive his efforts to work with the Guidance Department at the high school to get volunteers from the students who need to fulfill their volunteer hours. He would like the library to be part of the list of places to volunteer for on a permanent basis. Anne Hatcher will connect with Don the Junior High Honor Society counselor about the possibility of members of the Jr. Honor Society as possible volunteers.
- Board of Trustees: Jackie Smith reported that there will be a CLRC breakfast at the library to meet the local legislators on December the 13th. Skaneateles will be building a new 15,000 square feet library on Fennell St. in Skaneateles. It will have separate wings for adult and children's collection and a cafe. Work is to be completed in 2026. The latest news on the memory bricks is that they may have to be completely redone due to problems that are ongoing with the vendors. The MFL fundraiser was a success and completely sold out.
- Book Nook: Dottie Levy reported that everything is on track for the Book Sale next week. Signs are available to sign out today. Each sign is numbered and people should put their names next to the sign number that they have taken. The sign should be put out this coming Monday and taken in on the following Monday morning. After the meeting they will begin alphabetizing the fiction books.
- Sunshine: Audrey Kearney no report.
- Facebook: Facebook access is now working properly. Anne Hatcher is now officially doing all posting.
- Historian: Paulette Quinn will make pictures and today's event is recorded.

New Business

- Volunteer sign up: There is one slot open from 12:30 to 2:30 on Saturday for the Book Sale. National Friends of the Library week is October 20-26th. Volunteers are needed for Tuesday, the most visited day of the week. Two people are needed for each slot on that day for the membership drive. The Impact report will be printed for use at the Membership table. There will be swag available, the forms for membership will be a different color so that we can tell the memberships are a result of that effort. There were 25 new members because of the drive last year. Refreshments will also be available. Hospitality has slots open for hosting; a signup sheet was circulated among the attendees of the meeting.
- The Library Director, Sophia Brandt, submitted the first fund request of the fiscal year for \$2,225. The funds are to be used for Rapid Reads \$1,200, Stuff-a-Stuffie Workshop \$400, Toys & Mommy Mixer \$275, and Barefoot Bob's December Astronomy \$350. A motion was made by Domenick Patti that the funds be provided and seconded by Audrey Kearney. The motion was passed. Sophia also requested that the friends purchase two slender Christmas trees to add on each side of the Narnia wardrobe that will be part of the Christmas display. Concern about storage space was expressed and discussion ensued on the need to weed out the Christmas decorations as some of them are getting very old and worn. A motion was made by Jackie Smith that we spend up to \$200 dollars for the trees and seconded by Karen Pollard. The motion was passed.

Adjournment 2:40pm