

Friends of Marcellus Free Library, Inc.
January 25, 2023, 1 PM
Draft Minutes

President Jackie Smith called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM. Attendees were encouraged to sign in and record any volunteer hours.

Attendance: President Jackie Smith, Vice President Domenick Patti, Corresponding Secretary Paulette Quinn, Recording Secretary Michele Merwarth, Director Audrey Kearney, Director Karen Pollard, Deputy Treasurer Debbie Grousset

Absent: Treasurer Jim Shake

Total Attendance: 13

Program: Steve Kankus presented an update on the library's Strategic Planning process that included the four phases of the process and the goals of the plan. He presented several visual graphs on the geographical location of patrons, review of peer Onondaga County libraries, and circulation trends by week day, time, and type of item. He also reviewed the public survey from the library's December Open House.

Because of the snowy weather, Jackie released those Advisory Council members that wanted to go downstairs to assist the library with items the library requested assistance with.

Reports:

Secretary's Report: Michele previously distributed the November 30, 2022 minutes to Board members. Paulette made a motion to approve, seconded by Domenick. Motion carried. It will be posted on the Friends page of the library's website.

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of Jim, Domenick read the report for November and December 2022 and current balances as of January 23, 2023. The financial review of the 2021-2022 fiscal year was completed with minimal changes. The quarterly sales tax was made on December 19, 2022. The financial report will be filed as read.

Membership: Paulette presented Board members with an updated membership listing as of today. We currently have 153 members, surpassing our goal of 150 for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Book Nook: In Dottie's absence, Jackie stated that Barb Crawford and Deb Fratter are managing the Book Nook until Dottie's return on March 14th.

Business:

MFL Funding Request: A request for \$1,000 was received from the library for Adult Programming for the Winter, including a February Book Box Program and a Windowpane Herb Garden Program. After a lengthy discussion and clarification from Library Director Sophia Brant on the included food and refreshment request, a motion was made by Domenick and seconded by Karen to approve the \$1,000 request. Motion carried.

Victim's Assistance Center Request: The Victim's Assistance Center in Watertown requested a donation of children's books to use in their waiting room. Since Michele still has many children's books from a previous donation from the Marcellus schools, Audrey made a motion, seconded by Karen to fulfill the request. We may be asked to supplement books as supply dwindles. Michele will get the books to Sophia for distribution to the Center.

Vacancies: The Friends still have vacancies for Basket Raffle Chair and Historian Chair. Debbie has offered assistance, but someone is still needed to organize this if we are to have this for Olde Home Days in June. Preparations generally begins in February. Directions, list of businesses, and sample letters are available in our Policy & Procedures Guidebook. Jackie requested that we think on this during the upcoming month and ask around for volunteers. This has always been a profitable fundraiser for the Friends.

LEGO Fundraiser: Domenick passed out information on a possible FMFL fundraiser that was profitable for the Tompkins County Public Library. They recently sold LEGO book cart kits for \$30 and library building kits for \$60. He will do further research on this.

Library Lover's Month: Jackie will include information in the library's February Newsletter. Domenick will work on getting the word out for Library Advocacy Day on February 28th for instructions on how to send letters & emails to elected officials for library support/funding. Paulette will include information in February News & Notes. Michele will post to FaceBook. Domenick was given a sample coloring page of a library quote for patrons to take, color, and return. Domenick could make copies and use these for a display in the library for February.

February Speaker/Program: In recognition of Library Lover's Month, Jackie will show how to use the library's Libby and Hoopla programs. Michele will show how to use the library's Ancestry database. **Meeting date is February 22nd at 1 PM in the Community Room.**

Those that weren't able to volunteer time to help the library today because of weather are encouraged to stop into the library sometime soon and offer to volunteer some time to assist with items the library wishes some assistance with.

Being no further business, meeting adjourned at 2:28 PM

Michele Merwarth, Recording Secretary