



## Friends of Marcellus Free Library Meeting – 1 pm

Friends of the Library Community Room – October 26, 2022

President Jackie Smith called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.

### **Attendance:**

Jackie Smith, President; Jim Shake, Treasurer; Debbie Grousset, Deputy Treasurer; Paulette Quinn, Corresponding Secretary; Michele Merwarth, Recording Secretary; Audrey Kearney, Director; Karen Pollard, Director.

Absent: Domenick Patti, Vice President

Total membership present - 22

President Jackie Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked people to sign in and report any volunteer hours. She introduced our speaker, Ann Ferro.

### **Program:**

Ann Ferro, a columnist for the Press-Observer, retired Social Studies teacher, and 50-year community member, spoke about how she finds things in everyday life to spark ideas for her columns. She led the group in a hands-on exercise using a written paragraph as a prompt for the group to each continue the story. We read them aloud and found out that each of us can be writers too.

After Ann's program, we had a short break with snacks provided by Audrey and Vicki. Jackie reconvened the meeting at 2:12 pm.

### **Reports:**

**Secretary** – Michele gave the report for September 2022. Motion to accept the minutes was made, seconded, and carried. It will be posted on the Friends page of the library's website.

**Treasurer** - Jim presented the report for September 2022, and through 10/26/22 including bank statement balances. The statement will be filed as read. Preliminary totals for the Fall Book Sale are \$1,690 not including the Bag Sale. The Quicken disc is obsolete and Jim will investigate other software.

**Membership** - Paulette reported that there are currently 130 members, 13 of these are new members. She sent letters to the Board of Trustees encouraging them to join. Renewal letter reminders will go out to about 25 non – renewing members by November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Book Nook/Book Sale** - Dottie Levy stated that the Book Nook is closed during the Book Sale and the Bag Sale in the lobby. She thanked everyone that had a part in the Book Sale and asked people to return the Book Sale signs. She asked people to look for organizations to take books (about 90 boxes remain). She says that the

Friday Early Bird Sale has not been very busy. She is looking for volunteers to work 11/9 from 9 – 12 am in the Teen Room to price books for the Books in Gift Giving Condition Sale that will run from 11/21 until the end of December.

Board of Trustees – Michele reported on the 10/6 meeting. Steve Kankus presented his timeline for the phases of preparation for the library's Strategic Plan. Michele will be part of this committee going forward representing the Friends. Please send any ideas, suggestions, concerns, or questions to her about this process.

Sunshine - Audrey will send a get well card to Domenick Patti and his wife.

Facebook - Michele reported that there are now 141 followers. She posts events on community pages as well.

Advocacy – Jackie reported on Banned Books and Intellectual Freedom from ALA and listed a link to their site. Michele had handouts on how to become a Library Advocate from NYLA and a handout describing how Amazon Smile will donate .05% of purchases to the Friends after signing up.

### **Business:**

Special Friend of the Library Award – Library's nominee had been approved by Friends committee for recognition during National Friends of Libraries Week. Jackie and Sophia presented a certificate and \$50 check to Betsy Burton earlier this week.

MFL Open House – 6-8 volunteers are needed to assist the library on 12/2. A sign up sheet was passed around.

Library Request for Funds – Sophia requested funds of \$402 for the *BookPages* yearly subscription and \$250 for food items for the library's Open House. Motion was made to fund these requests, seconded, and passed.

Vacancies – Looking to fill Basket Raffle and Historian.

**Next meeting – November 30<sup>th</sup> – 9:30 am – Community Room. Short business meeting followed by decorating the library.**

Being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 2:43 pm.

Minutes submitted by Michele Merwarth, Recording Secretary