

Minutes February 2, 2015 Meeting

Call to Order: Vicki Lambrich, Barb Pokarney, Priscilla Whipp, Vickie McDonald, Sue Roper, Dolores Eads, Janet Sears and Diane Soffiatti

Treasurer's Report: \$7,599.82

Old Business:

The Holiday Bake Sale last December made \$856.01. Vickie reported that some of the crafts were not big sellers. She did say that the "meals in jars" were popular, and next year she would make some mug recipes. The dates were also discussed and as time gets nearer, we will need to find a good weekend for the event.

The Holiday Baskets were filled with donations from over twenty businesses thanks to Vicki and Janet Sears going around gathering the donations from local businesses. Vicki mailed thank you notes to all of them, and we displayed a flyer listing all of the names of businesses that donated. Not all of the \$400 allocated to this project was used and was returned to the bank account. Diane mentioned that for the last two years the winner of the basket with the Gingerbread Workshop certificate did not use it. It was suggested that instead of included a certificate in a basket, that we have a special drawing for it alone. People who were interested in coming to the workshop would then have a chance to win the certificate.

Barb Pokarney reported that after compiling our entry into the National Friend competition, it was discovered that we would need to join that organization for \$50. This entitled us to receive their newsletter the "Voice." We did not win the two monetary prizes, but were awarded an Honorable Mention. A certificate of this award will be placed in the book sale area. A goal of the Celebration Week was to increase the membership, and we did gain four new members. The children's art contest was not as successful as hoped. A new way to involve the children might be decided next year: a program for the young children or a craft made in the library.

All sixty of the calendars purchased were sold by December 28 either at the Celebration Week or Bake Sale or at the Circulation desk. Vicki did give a calendar to both the mayor and Arvilla Beasley's granddaughter, who judged the art contest during the Celebration Week. Barb commented that we could purchase these calendars at a reduced price with our membership in the United Friends national organization. The fundraiser for Noodles & Company raised \$500 approximately also in October.

Vicki distributed the new phone list which included the newest members.

Barb Scheiber was not in attendance to show the Friends Scrapbook, however people have talked to her about it being done. She will show us this addition to our organization at the May meeting. It is planned to have the scrapbook at any event to show off our accomplishments to the public.

The report on the book bags for another fundraiser will be given at the May meeting. Diane will research the cost per bag with the Friends' logo. These would be sold at the summer Big Book Sale, as well as at other occasions and possibly through the continuous book sale (at the circulation desk).

New Business:

The summer Big Book Sale was then discussed. Last year after the event we discussed having an evening preview of the sale. This would entail having volunteers on Thursday night after having the civic plaza meeting rooms set up for the sale during the day. We discussed charging a small fee to come Thursday night, or having people join for the amount of Friends' membership (\$5.00). The group decided that they would like to add the evening hours to the sale. Diane had four different dates to choose from that were free on the calendar for the meeting room space. June 11 through 13 was picked with a back-up of June 18-20 as the second choice. Diane will get the dates approved through the manager of the city's civic plaza meeting rooms. Having door prizes were also discussed as some prizes were not claimed last year and are just in the storage closet. It was decided to just give a free bag with certificate for free books would be the only items as door prizes this year.

Star Wars Day on April 11 was then discussed. Vicki described the items sold in the Friends' Cantina, which made \$99 for the group. Items that did not sell well were pre-packed fruit snacks and the drinks. It was decided to drop some of those items and concentrate on the one that did sell well: homemade shaped cookies, Chewie cookies (decorated Little Debbie chocolate rice cookies) and small items of Star Wars such as rings, tattoos etc. Vicki asked if anyone found reasonably priced Star Wars merchandise to buy it and turn in the receipts. A sign-up sheet was circulated to help with the Cantina on the event Saturday.

Vicki described what volunteers needed to do to keep the Book Sale area decorated each season or month. New people signed up to help with some of the months that did not have a volunteer. Some help is still needed for next Thanksgiving and some other times still. The schedule is posted on a white board in the Friends' closet. Most of the decorations are also in the closet, so that the volunteer just needs to do the decorating. The volunteer should co-ordinate with the previous person to take down the decorations, as well so that the area is always decorated.

During this discussion, Diane also described the locked case cabinet next to the front doors of the library. This space can have collectibles from people in the public. Diane gave Janet and Dolores the contact person's phone to schedule their collectibles for the display.

Diane also reported that there is a new teen group that has been organized at the library. This group, called the Teen Advisory Board, will be planning activities for high school age students. At some point they might need the Friends to volunteer to support a program or project.

A craft event on the last Saturday of February also might need volunteers to compile craft supplies. Make It Ugly will be from 1:30 to 3pm on Feb 28. Diane asked for any craft supplies that could be donated, such as pipe cleaners or fabric scraps to be given to her. She also thanked Vicki and Barb for their help making "I  Fondulac Library" buttons for the month of February. She passed one of the buttons to the members. Library staff and library patrons will also receive a button from the Adult Services desk on the second floor.

One of the staff members at the circulation department gave Vicki an idea about having paper hearts sold to members of the public for \$1.00 to support the Friends. The hearts would be written on in memory of a family member or in love of someone or in love of something at the library. This fundraiser would need to have administration approval, and a discussion of the location of the hearts was debated. This project was tabled for further discussion at the May meeting.

Funding for the 2015 Summer Reading Program, Read to the Rhythm, will be donated in a different way this year. Donations will be tiered as to a monetary amount and given to a fund as a whole instead of money for Children's or Teens. The highest amount recognized would be \$1,000. The Friends would be recognized in a variety of ways as a supporter of the summer reading program at Fondulac Library. After some discussion, Barb made a motion to donate \$1,000 to the 2015 summer reading program with Dolores making a second. It was unanimously passed. Information concerning the Red Cross Babysitting class and the cost was not available at tonight's meeting. The funding to support this class will be voted on at the May meeting. (Last year we gave \$15 per student to help cover some of the cost.)

Vicki asked if the Friends' group by-laws were published anywhere and if we could have a printed copy for members at the May meeting. Dolores had a copy in her folder, and Diane will get this reproduced for the next meeting, including library policies concerning book and material donations.

Dues were paid by those in attendance. Diane keeps a record of dues paid, and those members that have not paid since 2011 will be dropped from the membership list.

Meeting adjourned at 8PM.

Next meeting at 6PM on May 4, 2015.

- Someone asked if we should meet every other month or six times a year instead of four.