

FRIENDS OF THE LANE MEMORIAL LIBRARY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 28, 2008

Attendees: Gloria Goudreau, Susan Hughes, Lynn Goodman, Darrell Eifert, Diane Keyes, Kacey Morris, Connie George, Joyce Corcoran, Pat Trionfo-Spitz, Kris Sawyer, Carole Foster

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Gloria Goudreau in the Drakes Landing Clubhouse.

II. Secretary's Report

The Minutes from the last Board Meeting, held on April 2, 2008, were reviewed. Two minor corrections were noted: Connie George asked that the Balance amount listed with the Treasurer's Report be deleted as it is misleading; Connie George also noted that the correct name of the clubhouse is Drakes Landing. Susan Hughes moved to accept the Minutes with the noted corrections; Diane Keyes seconded, and the motion passed. The acceptance of Minutes from the May 28th meeting will take place at the next Board meeting.

III. Officers' Reports

a. Treasurer's Report

3/1/2008 thru 4/30/2008 – Balance Forward: \$13,016.31

Income = \$ 3,316.00

Expenses = \$ 1,425.61

Checking = \$14,906.70

Savings = \$ 2,511.83

CD = \$ 8,405.50

Total Assets = \$25,824.03

b. Membership Report

Pat Trionfo-Spitz reported there are now 193 members.

c. Publicity Report

Kacey Morris reported that the issue with Atlantic News on the cost of the HVAC ad was satisfactorily resolved in favor of the Friends.

There were no other Officers' Reports to review.

IV. Old Business

a. Business Mailing

Darrell Eifert spoke about a mailing to businesses in Hampton. It was determined that such a mailing should go out in the Fall. This would enable those who wanted to make a donation for their current tax year to do so. The mailing was expected to be under 2000 pieces, and Friends may have sufficient stamps from our first bulk mailing to cover this new mailing. Darrell will keep Friends informed.

b. Bulk Mailing

It was agreed that another bulk mailing should go out in the Spring of 2009. Perhaps this should become an annual mailing.

c. Thank-You Cards

Pat Trionfo-Spitz passed around the Thank-You postcard that will be sent to those who made donations to the Friends as well as to those who joined Friends. Darrell Eifert noted that, somewhere on the card, credit should be given to Ruth Stimpson for the artwork. Pat will take care of that detail. About 100 cards will be printed up at a cost of about \$10. Pat also noted that she is working on having labels printed with members' names/addresses.

d. Children's Book Sale

Susan Hughes announced that the recent Children's Book Sale was the best ever, taking in \$425. Even the videos were selling like hot cakes! The leftover books were picked up by the Exeter Rotary Club for their Literacy Drive. This fact will be noted in a news article, and will be good publicity for the Friends as well as for the Exeter Rotary. Sue was thankful for all those who helped with the book sale. Many hands make work light.

VII. Trustees Reports**a. New Library Director**

Both Susan Hughes and Gloria Goudreau were involved in the selection process for a new Library Director in Hampton, and they reported that the Trustees had selected an excellent replacement for Catherine Redden who has retired due to health reasons. The candidate chosen is Amanda Reynolds Cooper, who is currently the Director at the Epping Library. She will be starting in the position on June 16.

b. Retirement Party for Catherine Redden

Plans for a Retirement Party for the Library's previous Director, Catherine Redden, were discussed. The Friends will be a part of that celebration. No date has been set, as it will depend on Catherine's availability. Trustee Bob Friese is handling this project and will keep Friends updated on progress and details.

c. Children's Room Librarian Joanne Mulready

Jeff Hoyt, the son-in-law of Children's Room Librarian Joanne Mulready recently passed away from early-onset Alzheimer's Disease. A decision was reached that Friends would like to donate to the Alzheimer's Association. A motion was made that Friends send a donation in the amount of \$100 to the Alzheimer's Association in memory of Joanne's son-in-law Jeff Hoyt. The motion was seconded by Diane Keyes and was passed.

In addition, it was learned that one of Joanne's grandchildren has been diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome. Inasmuch as Joanne's daughter is dealing with several family tragedies at this time, it was determined that perhaps a special gift certificate could be purchased for her, such as a gift certificate for dinner at a restaurant near where she lives. Darrell Eifert stated that he would look into this. The Board was in agreement.

VIII. New Business**a. Annual Book Sale**

The Annual Book Sale for adults will be held the second week of July. Set-up will be on Wed., July 9th, from 3-5 PM. The sale will take place on Thurs. (9AM to 7PM), Fri.

(9AM to 4PM), and Sat. (9AM to Noon). It was decided to *not* have a Preview Night for Friends members this year. Susan Hughes is working on a schedule and will send it out to the Membership.

Diane Keyes mentioned that it would be good to try and make Friday of the book sale a better day than in the past; Friday has typically been a slow day. A suggestion was made to put out only half the books for the Thursday sale, with a sign stating that a re-stocking of the sale would take place on Friday when new items arrived. It was also suggested that we advertise the sale of videos at the book sale. In addition, there is a possibility that American Doll outfits would be available for raffle during the book sale.

Also available will be the large TV monitor that had been used by the Library, recently replaced by the new equipment. This TV monitor will be raffled off via a silent auction beginning on Thursday of the book sale. Highest bidder takes it home!

Raffles and auctions at the book sale will end on Saturday, July 12, and will be held in conjunction with the Red Sox Tickets raffle that is due to begin next week (see below).

Darrell Eifert suggested that next year we could try a Preview Night, prior to the opening of the book sale to the general public, for those who wish to preview the books. This could be done with a special Preview Membership, sort of a value-added membership in Friends. A specific sum would be added onto the cost of Friends membership, which would then entitle a person to preview the books on the eve of the sale set-up. This would be beneficial to book dealers who like to preview the books and would be likely to buy large quantities of them. This suggestion will be taken under consideration.

b. Twilight Book Club

Debra Perry's Book Club is enjoying great success. Publicity for it has been very good, and attendance also continues to be good. It's a good vehicle for spreading the word about Friends.

c. Summer Newsletter

The newsletter is in process of being developed. It was suggested that the summer issue be mailed the week of June 23rd, so as to be in members' hands prior to the weekend of the 28th. It is important that people receive the newsletter during that last full week of June. The following week is July 4th week, when many will take vacation, and the book sale follows immediately on the 10th. The deadline for articles or information for the Summer newsletter should be the 3rd week of June, that is, the week of June 15th. Contact Debra Perry with any information for the newsletter.

d. Red Sox Tickets Raffle

Diane Keyes and Darrell Eifert were pleased to show the Board their advertising 'creations' for the Red Sox-Yankees game tickets raffle. The poster is quite large and very eye-catching. It will be placed in the window at the Chamber's office at Hampton Beach. There are smaller, 8 x 10 size, paper posters that will be placed in local stores in Hampton's downtown area. It was determined that Friends needs to start a month prior to the drawing date (July 12th this year, in conjunction with the July Book Sale) to advertise the raffle and sell tickets. Many people have already been asking about it, and tickets

will go on sale at the Library the first week of June. Tickets will be on sale during the book sale in July just prior to the drawing, as well. The game between these two rival teams is expected to draw a lot of interest. Sales for the two game tickets should be brisk.

Diane will go to Staples and get the *really* large posterboard made. This posterboard will travel from supermarket to supermarket on the 3 weekends in June: 14th, 21st, and 28th. Diane has issued the schedule and is expecting to hear from members who will help sell tickets on these weekends. She is also looking for helpers to distribute the posters to local businesses in downtown.

Diane also noted that Friends should try and get a place at Hampton Beach to advertise the raffle and sell tickets. It was suggested that perhaps Friends could join forces with several other local organizations to rent a stall at the Beach for several days during the week of July 4th, with each organization using the space for a day. Costs associated with such a rental would be manageable and benefits would be spread over all the organizations involved. She will look into this possibility more thoroughly.

e. Friends 50th Anniversary

The 50th Anniversary Committee met on April 26th and outlined an ambitious program to celebrate this special event. A multi-month celebration is envisioned. Kick-off could be in August at the close of the Children's Summer Reading Program. A suggested program for that month could be Alex the Jester, a well-known and popular children's entertainer. It was suggested that this event be held in the high school auditorium, as a large crowd is expected. This event would be free to the public. Cost of hiring Alex the Jester would be \$600. Susan Hughes moved that Friends authorize the spending of \$600 to hire Alex; Connie George seconded it, and the motion passed.

For September, a lecture series is being considered, but there are no details at this time. In October, the flagship event would be a Gala Evening – perhaps a wine tasting, with a silent auction, a roving minstrel, a Friends-Through-the-Years display, door prizes. It would be a dressy affair and a chance to enjoy a special evening out with friends. There would be a nominal charge for this event.

Darrell Eifert explained that we would need a 1-day liquor license to have a wine-tasting. This could be done through one of the local organizations, such as Rotary, sponsoring the event. Other contingencies are special insurance that is required, and a police officer on duty that night. He already has a contact in Portsmouth with a wine company that would handle some of the details of that aspect.

Darrell would like very much to have it at the Library, and is talking about redecorating the Lane Room to make it more appealing, and creating an art exhibit space for local talent. Perhaps an art auction could be held in conjunction with the Gala, with proceeds benefiting the sponsoring organization. Many are the ways.....

An event such as this would have to be presented to the Trustees, as well as the Friends' general membership.

f. Miscellaneous

Susan Hughes mentioned that she and Kacey Morris are looking at the Friends website with an eye toward re-doing it.

Gloria Goudreau mentioned that she and Kris Sawyer are working on Job Descriptions for Friends' officers. The annual election of officers will be held in September, and they hope to have their work completed prior to that.

There is an e-mail from the Rye Librarian that contains information about a special event coming up in October: the Seacoast Libraries Conference, in Rye. It is scheduled for Oct. 4th, from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM. Pat Trionfo-Spitz e-mailed it to the Board and Directors.

V. Monies Allocated But Not Yet Spent

\$100 donation to Alzheimer's Association in memory of Jeff Hoyt
\$600 fee for hiring Alex the Jester for an August show

VI. Summary of Decisions Made

- A business bulk mailing will be sent out in the Fall.
- Thank-You cards will be mailed to new members and donors.
- A retirement party for Catherine Redden is in the planning stages.
- Support Joanne Mulready by donating \$100 to the Alzheimer's Association in memory of her son-in-law.
- Think about providing a gift certificate to Joanne as a way of providing some relief from her recent trials.
- The Annual Book Sale is scheduled for the second week of July, and will include Red Sox game tickets raffle, perhaps an American Dolls raffle, and a silent auction for the no-longer-used large TV monitor.
- Information for the Summer newsletter should be sent immediately to Debra Perry, as publication is set for the 4th (full) week of June.
- Red Sox game tickets raffle drawing will be July 12th.
- Friends 50th Anniversary Gala is in the planning stages.
- Friends has allocated \$600 to hire Alex the Jester for an August event.

Connie George motioned to adjourn our busy and productive meeting at 8:35 PM. Joyce Corcoran seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Goodman, Secretary