

MEETING MINUTES

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Date: March 19,2025

Time: 2:00 pm

Meeting called to order by: Liz Winters

IN ATTENDANCE

Liz Winters, Ila Schnackel, Michele Smith-Link, Margaret Allen, Rebecca Rhoney, Becky Burns, Linda Belfield, Christa Lutz, Vonda Westcott,

Approval of minutes

Secretary's Report- January meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted (as sent via email). The secretary would like members to know that she will be out of town for the April meeting and requests that someone volunteer to fill in for that meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Reviewed and approved.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Michele (Board) – Michele informed the Friends that the library clerks have resigned. The Board has posted the job openings and applications will be accepted until April 8th. In the meantime, the staffing shortage will be covered by volunteers and staff from other nearby libraries. Members of the Friends group are encouraged to volunteer whenever possible. She also reported that the possibility exists there will not be a car show sponsored by the Fire Department in September. The Friends will need to address the issue of how this will impact our book sale, and other possible options. She also brought the group up to date on the upcoming community canal event in recognition of the 200th anniversary of the opening of the canal. The canal group is tentatively looking at dates in October and planning on bands and a food truck. Discussion followed about how the library and Friends group could support the event, possibly with children's activities and/or a book sale. This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

The annual Memorial Day Duck Derby is coming up soon. The group decided that it would be a good idea to set up an informational table at the event. Details are to be finalized in April.

Ila- Continuing the discussion of the current staff shortages, Ila informed the group that Angelina needs Friends to volunteer until the library is fully staffed again. Angelina mainly needs help in the mornings and afternoons with an emphasis on the children's programs. Other opportunities include shelving returned books and finding hold requests. Please let Angelina know if you can help either by emailing her or stopping by the library.

Ila also led a discussion on a proposed beautification committee which she is willing to chair. The focus would be on decorating for summer (outdoors – some light gardening, possibly planting flowers in pots), winter, Halloween and Christmas. There was also some discussion about using the glass display case inside the front door to highlight local skilled artisans and their work. Christa offered to post on Facebook for people who might be interested in contributing, and to coordinate times for showcasing. Becky R., Vonda, and Michele will be on the committee.

Yard sale and book sale – will be on May 3rd during the community yard sale. We should have high school students available to bring the tables up from the basement. Amy volunteered to cover the yard sale from 12-3. Margaret and Ila have started sorting. Amy and Linda Pickreign (board member) will help with the sorting and pricing. On a separate table Becky B. will create some samples of card holders to make out of CD covers as a way of encouraging people to purchase CDs for craft projects. We will charge the same for books as in past years - \$5.00 for a new bag, \$4.00 for a refill. Angelina suggested that we make up mystery bags with books, dvds or cds in them. This will be discussed further and plans finalized at the April meeting.

Chair (Liz) – Reported that she had talked to someone recently about joining the Friends group and led a further discussion on other ways to encourage new members. The group discussed encouraging parents when they come to the children's activities or creating an informational flyer. The flyer on the Friends page on the library website probably needs to be updated as well. This will be further discussed in April.

She reminded the group that May 5th is the Jennifer Coburn author event. She gave everyone bookmarks to take and distribute to help advertise the event.

Next Board Meeting – Monday May 19 at 6:00 p.m.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be on April 16th at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Rhoney