

SSF Friends of the Library Meeting
Tuesday, October 11, 2022
6:00 p.m., Main Library

Minutes

The quarterly SSF Friends of the Library meeting was brought to order by President Eleanor Breite at 6:05 p.m. Twelve members were in attendance.

1. President's Update (Eleanor Breite)

- a. **Diane Ingalls** – Diane Ingalls recently passed away. She was a dedicated FOL member, serving for many years as FOL President.
- b. **December Book Sale** – The next book sale is scheduled for Dec. 15-18, 2022, in the Main Library's Maker Space. It will be a "fill a bag" sale for \$5.00/bag. Volunteers are needed to help shoppers, organize books, and tidy up. Library staff will handle money transactions. A sign-up sheet was passed among those attending, and Joanne Gordon, Membership Chair, offered to distribute the sign-up sheet and put out a call for volunteers, via email and soon, to all current members.
- c. **Donated CDs/DVDs Coordination (Becky Bayardo)** – Becky provided an overview of the CD and DVD donation/sorting process. Per month, the library receives approximately 100-125 DVDs and about the same amount for CDs. The condition of donated DVDs and CDs are checked, and those items that are in very good condition are put in the lobby sale area. These items are very popular and quickly sell.
- d. **Donated Books (Margaret Abdilova)** – Margaret provided an overview of the book donation/sorting process. Donated books are first received from library patrons on the "Donation" cart near the Circulation Desk and are transferred to the downstairs sorting area for several rounds of book condition screening and book sale response. The spring book sale was quite successful with 2,350 books sold in 2 ½ days, raising \$1,175 in funds. ***Volunteers are needed to help with book/DVD/CD donation process!*** Thank you to Ramona Altamirano for recently becoming a book donation volunteer. If interested in volunteering, contact Eleanor Briete and/or Margaret Abdilova.
- e. **Questions from Attending Members**
 - i. **SSF Citywide Clean-up Day & Books** - The SSF Citywide Cleanup Day is this coming Saturday, Oct. 15, and discarding of hardback/paperback books has been advertised. Is there coordination between SSF Citywide Cleanup Day and the Library related to books? Not presently and too soon to coordinate for this event. Ramona Alamirano volunteered to investigate coordination for, possibly, SSF's spring clean-up event.
 - ii. **Capuchino High School** – Capuchino High School is in need of books for a drama department project scheduled for next month. Michele Chin will check into it and report back in case SSF FOL can help out.

2. **Library Requests (Stacy Lein)** – Stacy asked for FOL funding for the items below listed. Eleanor presented vote on list, there was a motion to approve, 1st/2nd ayes were given, and, by general vote by those attending, all approved of the request.
 - a. \$675 Tumblr Books
 - b. \$450 Storytime Craft Kits
 - c. \$300 Adult Crafternoon
 - d. \$150 Maker Space Supplies

3. **Treasurer’s Report (Gail Davison)** – The savings account balance as of 6/30/22 was \$29,450.42. With July-September dividends (\$1.25 monthly), the balance as of 9/30/22 was \$29,454.17.

4. **Membership Update (Joanne Gordon)** – As of 10/11/22, there are 38 paid members, generating \$2,690 in membership donations over the past 12 months.

5. **Library Director Report (Valerie Sommer)**
 - a. **Project Read** – Project Read’s Trivia night is quickly approaching: November 18th. FOL was thanked for supporting the event again this year. Over 200 attended in person last year and about 37 live streamed. Live-streaming will be available again this year. FOL funding supports a variety of Project Read efforts: computer books, databases, recent tutoring upgrades (equipment and art work), and Americord Workers assistance.
 - b. **New Library Construction** – The new library space is progressing. Anticipate opening in September 2023. Books from Main Library will be transferred in the Summer of 2023. “LPR” might be the new acronym for the facility...needs to be approved by City Council. All donors, no matter the donation level, will be recognized on opening day. Opening day FOL funding, saved over many past years, will be used for opening day celebration give-aways. The FOL space will be smaller, but there will be more space in lobby area and more traffic as the recreation department attendees will be passing by FOL lobby sale space. There was a suggestion to have a big sale, next spring/early summer, for those books not destined to be transferred to the new library. A walk-through of the new library is expected, but not anytime soon. Main Library (West Orange) will be used for a new child care center.
 - c. **Library Usage** – Patrons are returning and usage numbers are steadily picking up.
 - d. **Summer Reading Challenge** – Approx. 7000 children signed up for this summer’s reading program. Close to 8,000 books were distributed.
 - e. **Textile Tuesday?** No news yet.
 - f. **Voting Center is Now Open!** Come and vote.

6. **Nomination of Officers for 2023 (Eleanor Breite)** – The SSF FOL bylaws indicate that annual elections must be held for the positions of President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Margaret Abdilova, Member-at-Large, asked for nominations with the below results. Eleanor will send an email to ask membership for additional nominations. Voting will occur in January.

- a. **Treasurer** – Gail Davison; second nomination pending
- b. **Secretary** – Pat FitzPatrick; second nomination pending
- c. **President** – Eleanor Breite; second nomination pending

The next meeting will be held on January 10, 2023. The meeting was adjourned by President Eleanor Breite at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by...

Joanne Gordon

Membership Chair

In the absence of Secretary Pat FitzPatrick