FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEETING

Monday January 29, 2024

Present: Jackie Falvo, Rose Ann Lindemann, Annemarie Conklin, Cindy Newman, Mary Bogue, Laura Swensen, Mari Thomas, Audrey Vannucci, Judy Ross, Elaine Lester, Michelle Duell

Meeting called to order at 6:06 by President Mary Bogue

Secretary's Report: reviewed and Rose Ann made a motion to accept the minutes as written, Cindy seconded.

Treasurer's Report: Rose Ann reviewed a year-end report including all of our expenses and income in 2023. Our checking account balance on 1/29/24 is $9,953.73

Yearly dues were collected from all present.

Jackie Falvo was nominated to take over the Secretary duties for 2024 and all were in favor.

Cindy Newman ordered a library t-shirt and will bring to our next meeting to see if we like it and want to place an order.

Library passes were discussed and we decided to renew the Children's Museum pass for $300. All were in favor as this pass was used 45 times (per Heather).

We will renew the Wild Center pass and the Empire pass as they come due.

All agreed to not renew the USS Slater pass or the Iroquois Museum pass due to only being used two times each. We also decided not to purchase the MiSci (Schenectady Planetarium) pass.

Books for Babies was discussed – we took a vote and all were in favor of ordering 25 more kits for $200 as we have no more in stock.

Bus trips were discussed and Laura suggested that we need to be sure the busses have a working microphone!! Laura also gave Rose Ann the name of an excellent driver that we had in the past. Rose Ann will be calling the bus company to schedule 3 trips in 2024: Saturday, June 1st – Boston

 Saturday, December 7th – NYC

 Sunday, October 13th – Salem (two busses)

We discussed several other great ideas for day trips but decided 3 is enough for now.

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Also discussed was a plant sale for spring. Mari Thomas suggested a geranium sale and will work with Mary Bogue. They will report their ideas at our next meeting.

At our next meeting we will discuss the idea of a Great Gatsby Gala as a fund raiser. Michelle has a lot of great ideas for the evening, such as a photo booth and music, etc.

This event would be held at the Art Center on the Hudson possibly early June so as not to interfere with end of school year events. We would need to decide now as we would only have about 3 months to plan and advertise!

Michelle informed our Friends group that the library is considering moving the Ellsworth historical room to the XO tower. The Chamber of Commerce is currently there. This could open up a space at the library for teens or seniors or whatever the need would be. The Friends of the Library could volunteer hours to supervise the area possibly. The library wouldn't have it in their budget to hire someone to do this job.

Rose Ann motioned to end the meeting at 7:02 and all seconded.

Next meeting – Monday, February 26, 2024 at 6:00pm