

FRIENDS OF THE PAMLICO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

January 27th, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Kathy Baradyn, Rich and Carolyn Bartz, Cathy Brugett, Bonnie Cap, Kat Clowers, Debbie and Bill Deighton, Jennie DeStefano, Bob Fuller, Caitlin Kuhn, Pat Potter, Peg Vick, Ann Whitman

Bonnie called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00pm. She introduced two new members of the team. **Cathy Brugett** will be preparing advertising and marketing materials, while **Pat Potter** will be assisting with fundraising activities and stewardship. Both have extensive experience with non-profit groups and are most welcome.

Carolyn presented the **Budget Update**. The FOL currently has approximately \$121,242.28 total in its accounts.

Kathy presented the **Membership Report** noting that there was a total of 72 renewals. She is working on preparing reminders for those who have not as yet renewed. She also discussed the addition of a note to opt out of membership on the membership letter, as well as adding directions on using amazonsmile.

We currently do not have a **Community and Social Chair**. **Peg** suggested that once this position is filled it can be as an Event Coordinator. She also noted that an ice cream sundae event had taken place in December to thank the ROTC class that provided much needed assistance with breakdown of the last book sale.

Caitlin outlined the continuing library programs and discussed a new program that Ms. Willow conceived: Read Your Library Challenge, an opportunity to read outside your usual genre. There will be a children's party on February 12th. To meet a community need, Ms. Fran is learning how to knit left-handed to assist the southpaw knitters (talk about a library challenge!). All programs are highlighted on the library website.

Under **New Business**, we noted the **new FOL meeting time has moved to the fourth Thursday at 4:00pm**. This time would allow school staff to attend and would involve daytime driving rather than driving at night. In addition, it does not bisect the day as the 12:00pm meetings did. We will note if this new time encourages more members to attend.

Bonnie mentioned that, as a result of the fiscal year being changed from June to December, a change in the bylaws would be required to reschedule the annual meeting. A vote by the members is planned for the

February 24th meeting after notification have been sent two weeks before the meeting as prescribed by the bylaws.

Three events are planned, one each for March, April and May. A discussion of these events ensued with several suggestions for advertising and marketing presented.

The FOL has been invited to participate in the **OWC's Chowder Cook-off** on **March 19th** in Oriental.

We felt it was an excellent opportunity to become known a bit more. The organizer, Sally Belangia, gave us the OK to prepare our own flyer, distribute a brochure, have our donation box available and to give away the donated cookbooks that have accumulated.

Cathy Burgett will prepare a flyer which we will have approved by Sally and then distribute.

Bonnie noted having researched 'bookish' aprons online.

A member of the Friends has volunteered to sponsor a booth at the Rotary's **Boat Show in Oriental on April 7th (set up) – April 10th**.

Pat suggested purchasing baseball-type hats with the FOL logo on them to be used at all events. She will research costs.

Cathy will prepare a flyer using a free trial of the CANVA graphics program to be approved by the Boat Show organizer. Two raffles, one a nautical raffle prepared by the Friends and another more library-centered basket prepared by the library staff.

A community event to showcase the footprint of the new building, perhaps on Saturday, May 14th, would take place at the Hardee's building.

Walter would designate the perimeter of the building with paint/tape.

We could have a child-oriented activity for the children in the area that would be the children's room – perhaps an ongoing story time. The video could be played on a loop.

A hot dog vendor would be contacted. Water and desserts would be provided by the Friends.

Additional details would need to be decided upon including marketing/advertising strategies. The building itself would be closed.

Kat suggested having a porta-potty on site.

Various other ideas were discussed: marketing ideas; whether Duke would buy back excess energy created by the solar panels; the installation of an 8'X6' board with the new library rendering at Hardee's; the costs of operation, and others.

Bob Fuller presented several ideas on contacting elected officials, promoting the idea of building for the future, and other thoughts.

Kat suggested we become a member of the Chamber of Commerce (Debra Stinson is contact). She also noted that people who use the library have never had the opportunity or need for them to step up to this type of fund raising. The support is there for children's programs and space for teenagers after school. She also mentioned the need for a Town Hall-type public meeting to answer question. We need to schedule such an event.

Ann Whitman mentioned using public service announcements provided by various radio stations.

Cathy asked when/if a clean-up of the Hardee's facility would occur. She noted that we would also need to schedule a rain date for the May event.

A meeting with Josh Rose and the new board members should be scheduled.

The possibility of preparing a 'business' card with the FOL officers names and one contact email listed would be helpful to distribute during events, public meetings and at presentations.

Under Old Business, **Bonnie** reiterated the need for a secretary.

In addition, the need for a consensus on 'talking points' when discussing the new library building with groups was voiced.

There being no other business to attend to, Peg made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Jennie seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15.

Minute preparer's note:

This was an extremely successful meeting. More members were present than in recent history. Discussions were lively, ideas were flying, and enthusiasm reigned! Hope all readers of these minutes will consider attending the next meeting on February 24th at 4:00pm in the library. (BC)