

Friends of Seward Library Meeting - Draft

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Present: Becky Baker, Jeanie Hecker, Becky Reisdorff, Carla Schwahn, Marj Komenda, Linda Zimblemann, Lori Anderson, Maxine Moore, Sandi Rocker, Becky Reisinger, Sue Imig, Peg Reese, Virginia Fraser, Connie Doehring, Chris Corum, Mary Kropf, Jill Kruse and Pam Walz.

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order by President Jeanie Hecker at 6:33pm. Roll call was taken.

2. Minutes of the Spring 2018 Meeting

Sandi Rocker made a motion and Connie Doehring seconded that the minutes from the fall 2018 meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried. These minutes will be posted on the Friends website along with tonight's minutes.

3. Treasurer's Report

\$18,687.73 is the amount in the Friends bank account. The following donations were received in 2018: Used book table \$1,211.53, Spring Book Donation/Chapters \$150. Amazon Smile \$128.99, Spring Book Sale \$893. Library Consignment \$259.22, String Bean Concert \$281.88, 4th of July and after sales \$1271.66, Gladys Hildebrand Memorial \$940, Décor Days \$650.07, Donations \$1193.20, Black Hills Energy \$500. Jill Kruse made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Sue Imig seconded the motion. Motion carried. Jill Kruse will audit the Friends 2017 and 2018 books. Becky Reisdorff mentioned that anyone who isn't a lifetime member and hasn't paid their 2019 dues needs to take care of that.

4. Old Business

Fall programs went well. Friends purchased snacks for the after school programs. The 15th anniversary party was a big success with many activities. The event was well attended. Becky Baker mentioned that there are still souvenirs left (magnet clips and shot glasses) if any Friends didn't get theirs and still would like them.

Décor Days was a successful fundraiser. Donations of items continue to be dropped off all the time. This year's Décor Days setup will take place on Monday, September 23rd at 5pm and the sale will be held from September 24th until the afternoon of September 30th. The take down will happen on September 30th at 5pm

Used Book Sales – The Friends table and book nook continue to do fine as far as sales are concerned. The Friends had been using Library Consignment to sell books to but that company became unstable and didn't pay Friends. Another such buyer (Better World Books) was then being used by Friends but they are phasing out suppliers who only have smaller amounts of books so we will now stop using them. Becky Baker and Marj Komenda are working together to try another company, The Book Prospector. The Book Prospector tells you up front how much money you will be paid per book and we can send the books in when we have reached 15 pounds. They pay shipping charges.

Friends will have Easter décor available for sale around April 15th in the library lobby. A spring used book sale may happen in late April. The city may be having a surplus sale on Friday April 26th or possibly later in the summer. If so, Friends could sell décor during that sale.

5. New Business

National Library Week is April 7-13th. Friends will dine out at La Carreta on Monday, April 8th at 5:30. Other events include: Book Review Bingo on Thursday April 11, a children's bookmark contest, a York College children's play, and Friends buying supper for staff before Book Review Bingo. Friends will be asked for donations of ice cream for the bingo night. There might be a kid's book event on Tuesday, April 9th. National Volunteer Week is this same week. Jeanie Hecker will take care of gifts for volunteers of the library. Possibly the volunteers could join Friends at the La Carretta dinner or get a gift certificate to the restaurant if that night is inconvenient for them.

The summer reading kick off is Saturday, May 18th 11am – 1:30pm. Friends will be asked to man and provide cookies for a cookie walk and help with other activities. Similar events to past years are being planned. The summer theme is "A Universe of Stories". The adult reading contest will take place again this summer.

On June 20th a Family Trivia Night will be held from 6:30-7:30pm. Friends will provide treats. An adult program will be held at 8pm that evening at Bottle Rocket Brewery with space trivia being the entertainment. Cliff Lowell will provide the trivia for both programs.

An Escape Room for children and one for adults will be set up during dates in June and July. Meeting room A will hold the kids escape room and the main level conference will be the location of the adult escape room. More details coming and could include timed events, teams, prizes?

A Star Wars party will be held in the summer. More details coming.

The String Beans will perform on Monday, July 1st. Friends will serve ice cream as they have in the past.

Leading To Reading-Becky Reisinger did an inventory of cards. Sales have been down as well as the number of in county cards being sent out. Could be not as many babies being born, the project has seen its time or could just need more publicity. Also some of the books listed on the cards are now out of print so the cards need updating. Becky Reisinger and Becky Baker came up with the content of the cards in the beginning and also updated them a few years ago. Becky Reisinger is retiring at the end of summer. A new committee of Jill Kruse, Jeanie Hecker, Peg Reese and possibly Carla Ketner and Sally Snyder will work on updating the cards and brainstorming publicity to reinvigorate the program. The baby olympics at the county fair, the health fair, Plum Creek Literacy Festival and hospital gift shops are some of the ideas of places that the cards could be promoted. Also Friends could sign up for a vendor table and sell cards in October at the Nebraska Library Association annual conference. The conference will be a joint conference with Iowa this year. The conference will be bigger than usual and folks that haven't already seen the cards would be there. The cost of a vendor table is not known at this time.

Non-Profit Lunches-Instead of having a library staff member join civic groups, many nonprofit entities in Seward were invited to a lunch to share information. The Friends paid for the first lunch (held in November). 30 groups were represented. The second lunch was held in February with 16 groups being represented. The lunches were very successful and the Friends will continue to sponsor them 3 times per year. SewardCountyEvents.com is a website that the groups can post info about events. The website will link to the Seward County Independent's online calendar. Groups have been encouraged to post their events on this calendar. The library newsletter will feature a non-profit group each month. Paying for the lunches will become part of the Friends regular disbursements at our fall meeting. The non-profits would like a website listing of area non-profits that link to their sites and that includes links to their fund-raising flyers. The Friends will buy the domain name and library staff will develop and maintain the page.

Election of Officers – Maxine Moore made a motion that the current slate of officers: Jeanie Hecker, President, Jill Kruse Vice President, Becky Reisdorff Treasurer and Pam Walz Secretary be retained. Linda Zimbelmann seconded the motion. Motion carried.

6. Disbursements

- \$200 Non-Profit Lunch
- \$50 Domain name (sewardnonprofits.org)
- \$250

Sue Imig made a motion to fund the listed disbursements. Virginia Fraser seconded the motion. Motion carried.

7. Additional Report from Director

Becky mentioned that Friends needs a policy in place for when a Friends member passes away. Should Friends send flowers or give a donation to the library? Mary Kropf made a motion to give a \$50 donation to the library for books in memorial of members who pass away. Lori Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried. The genre of the books could be suited to the hobbies or interests of the person being remembered.

At the Friends fall meeting a discussion needs to happen in regards to the memorial money given in honor of Gladys Hildebrand and Mary Anne Kruse. The \$2000 could be used for a large purchase. The Seward Library Foundation may need some help with some of their projects such as floor tile upkeep, silhouette lights or lockers to be put in the west entryway of the library.

Connie Doehring made a motion to adjourn. Maxine Moore seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8PM
Pam Walz, Secretary