

Friends of the Griffin Free Library - March 4, 2024

Present: Cathy Sartorelli, Pat Davenport, Marie Sullivan, Dan Szczesny, Joanne Linxweiler, Terry Coll, Brenda Brunelli, Nancy Mayland, Liz Michaud, Jess Traynor, Fay Hanscomb, Pat Allard, Sharon O'Leary Graves, Marion Miller, Pat Clement, Cindy Berling (phone), Ron and Cindi Correria, and Karen Murray

The meeting was called to order at 6:50 PM.

Quilt Donated for Raffle

Fay introduced friends of hers, Judy and Jerry Bellrose. Judy made a beautiful book themed quilt that she donated to the Friends. Judy shared that the Griffin Free Library is special to her. We thanked Judy for this amazing donation. The quilt size is 68" x84" for a twin bed and it will fit on the top of a queen bed.

Secretary's Report

The previous month's minutes were reviewed. A motion was made to accept the secretary's report. 1st Joanne and 2nd Marie - motion passed

The Welcome Letter for new members is almost complete. It will be emailed to new members. Pat will set up president@friendsofgriffinfree.org email and Marie will set up hers at treasurer@friendsofgriffinfree.org as these addresses will be in the letter.

Karen also shared that Cindy will post the monthly Friends' Crier articles on the Friends website. It was decided to make a section titled Crier Articles. As a reminder send Cindy any information, pictures, minutes, etc. to be posted on this site. The Friends' website: <https://friendsofgriffinfree.org/>
Link to meeting minutes from the Friends', Trustees, and the Expansion Committee.

<https://friendsofgriffinfree.org/meeting-minutes-archive/>

Treasurer's Report

Museum Passes

Bedrock Gardens \$125

Squam Lake Science Center \$300

Tote Bags (50% deposit) \$476

Current balance is \$4241.57

Outstanding charges: \$150 Children's Museum of Dover
\$476 Tote Bags (final payment)

A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report. 1st Cindi and 2nd Ron - motion passed

Director's Report

1. Museum Passes
 - a. Dan recommended renewing the pass to Currier Museum of Art. A motion was made. 1st Nancy and 2nd Fay - motion passed
 - b. Dover's Children's Museum - waiting for application and check Marie will be the contact.
 - c. Bedrock Gardens and Squam Lake - money has been sent so waiting for confirmation and passes.
 - d. The library website is being revamped. Wendy built a beautiful page for the museum passes. Check it out!
 - e. Passes have been a huge hit this year: 42 overall with 29 in Feb. Last year at this time there were 23 passes borrowed. The top 3 passes have been SEE Science Center, McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center and a tie for the Museum of Science and New England Aquarium.
 - f. Karen asked about the Canterbury Shaker Village pass. Dan explained it doesn't expire until April and he would recommend not renewing.
2. Creative Bug should be up and running very soon!
3. Library usage numbers continue to climb! Nearly 1,000 in parton usage in February which far exceeds previous years. Patron usage is climbing at a higher rate than actual circulation. This is due to an increase in events as well as increased publicity for them. Upcoming events are: Brewing NH (3/15), Eclipse Party (4/8), Craft Swap (4/13) and Puzzle Swap 5/11.
4. Plastic Bag Drive for Bench- People are asking about donating bags. This has been tabled until the April meeting. Fay will bring info about the drive.
5. Lawn Signs for Article 20 are available. Remember to vote on 3/12.

Old Business

Library Giving Day is April 3rd - Karen wrote about this in March Crier and will again in April. Karen will put information on the Auburn Community Facebook page although directly asking for donations is not allowed.

Tote Bag Fundraiser - Cathy will get the bags on 3/29 and bring them to our 4/1 meeting. The bags will be sold for \$20. The Trustees will decide at their 3/11 meeting if these can be sold at the library. Cathy will use her VP email address: vicepresident@friendsofgriffinfree.org to take orders for the bags. Checks or cash will be accepted. The bags will be sold at Friends' events.

Cathy submitted the sales order for the bags and the paper proof of the artwork for the bags. Karen will put these documents in the binder with the minutes of the Friends' meetings. Thanks to Cathy for taking the lead on this fundraiser.

Plant Sale - the subcommittee met on 2/19 and made good progress. Busy beezz in Hooksett will start seedlings for our sale. Next meeting will be 3/11 at 10:00AM at the library. All are welcome.

New Business

Quilt Raffle - It was decided we will begin selling raffle tickets on 5/18 the day of the Plant Sale. The raffle will take place at the Duck Race on 9/14 at 2:00 or 2:30pm. The cost for tickets will be \$5 for 1 ticket and \$20 for 5 tickets. Marie recommended getting tickets printed. Nancy may have the materials do this, but if not she knows someone who can print them. The quilt will be stored at the library and displayed once the raffle starts. Sharon will look into getting a stand for the display. We will need to advertise on the website, in the Crier and on the Facebook Community page.

Additional Fundraisers - Pat asked we should consider an additional fundraiser as last year we generated many fundraising ideas. Everyone agreed there is enough fundraising going on at this time.

Action Items Listed in Minutes - Cathy shared that the Trustees have a section at the end of their minutes titled "Action Items." She asked if this is something the Friends should institute. We agreed this will be a helpful addition to the minutes so Karen will include this section.

Room Arrangement for Meetings - Pat asked for feedback regarding the new set-up of the board members sitting at the table and the others in attendance in chairs facing them. The overall consensus is to continue with this arrangement as it makes it easier for those speaking to be heard.

Voting Article 20 - Marion asked about ways to get the word out to vote for Article 20. Patti A. and Fay have been walking around their neighborhood talking to people. Political postings are not allowed on the Facebook Auburn Community Page. The Auburn Front Porch Page does allow political postings for those who chose to do so.

Author Visits - the Friends will like to have an author visit.

1. Sisters in Crime www.sincne.org - Dan got some information. Karen will email this information to all. We will discuss at our next meeting and choose a program.
2. John Rockwood <https://www.facebook.com/THE.LOON.MAN/> - has offered to present for the Friends. The cost will be \$150. A motion was made for Dan to contact John and set-up a time for this presentation. 1st Pat C. 2nd Marie and motion passed

Action Items

1. Karen to complete Welcome Letter and email to new members
2. Pat to set-up president's email at president@friendsofgriffinfree.org
3. Marie to set-up treasurer's email at treasurer@friendsofgriffinfree.org
4. All to send Cindy information for Friends website. Cindy's email is CindyBerling@gmail.com
5. All to check out the library's website and revamped museum pass page
6. Fay to bring information about collecting plastic bags to April meeting
7. Karen to write about Library Giving Day in the Crier article and share on Facebook. All are asked to share with friends.
8. Nancy to check about printing raffle tickets
9. All to visit Sisters in Crime website www.sincne.org as we will discuss their programs at our April meeting
10. Dan to contact John Rockwood to set-up a time for him to speak
11. All vote on 3/12 and support Article 20

Motion to adjourn at 7:50PM 1st Terry 2nd Joanne

Next Friends' Meeting: **Monday, April 1, 2024 at 7:00pm** at the library.

Karen Murray

Secretary Friends of the Griffin Library