

Friends of the Griffin Free Library - October 7, 2024

Present: Pat Davenport, Cathy Sartorelli (late), Marie Sullivan, Pat Clement, Sharon O'Leary Graves, Jess Traynor, Brenda Brunelli, Terry Coll, Patti Allard, Marion Miller, Cindy Berling, Cindi Correia, Judy Bellerose, Dan Szczesny, and Karen Murray

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

Secretary's Report

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

Membership Forms - 27 membership forms have been received. Ten members have not yet completed their forms. Karen sent individual emails or spoke to members who have not yet responded. Cathy followed up with some phone calls. One person will no longer be a member due to her busy schedule. Membership forms will be available at the library and the Friends' table on 11/5 Election Day.

Treasurer's Report

Balance		\$6692.89
9/3 NH Children's Museum	-300.00	6392.89
9/3 Jess Traynor (coffee cup)	- 6.38	6386.51
9/10 Jess Traynor	-194.95	6191.56
(\$150 Historic NE, \$44.95 totes)		
9/19 Mary Hrubiec (shelving)	-827.56	5364.00
9/11 Square Deposit	+ 7.69	5371.69
9/13 Deposit (totes, ornaments, quilt)	+649.00	6020.69
9/3 Deposit (popcorn, Pick-a-Duck)	+1034.00	7054.69
8/30 Interest	+ .06	7054.75
10/7 Deposit (popcorn, Pick-a-Duck)	+290.00	7344.75

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

Director's Report

1. **Museum Passes** - September is 1st full month under the new museum pass system and the numbers look fine. Sept. is usually the slowest month of the year for passes, but has increased this year with 13 passes this month compared to 8 in Sept. 2023. Total so far this year is 207 passes, which breaks last year's total of 199 and we still have 3 months to go!

Museum Pass Updates:

Historic NE: Pass was processed on Sept. 5 and ticket bundle was sent out the following week, but it never arrived. They are resent tickets on 10/4 and should arrive soon. The subscription start date will be pushed back from Sept to Oct.

NE Aquarium: We have paid through the 2025 season.

Passes coming due in the next 2-4 months that Dan has recommended we renew:

Museum of Science \$700, Currier \$100, Aviation Museum \$100

A motion was made to renew all 3 passes.

Marie 1st and Pat C. 2nd - motion passed.

2. **Creative Bug** - There was an increase in Sept., but not as much as Dan would like. Currently 82 active users, up 6 from last month. All are encouraged to broadcast on social media to get more people signed-up.
3. **Patron Usage** - continues to increase. Even without book sale usage, there's an increase of 16.4% over last year at this time. This is creating a need for increased staffing and resources. Circulation up nearly 5% and website usage up nearly 13%. Book Donations are up 65%. In 2023 it took 42 days to raise 500 pounds of plastic. In 2024 1,000 pounds of plastic was collected in 50 days. Fax, copy, computer, and from room usage are all up.
The library is in need of copy paper size boxes to store donated books.
4. **Sisters in Crime** - Library staff sent press releases to Ink Link and The Hippo. Sisters in Crime built a Facebook Event page that we should all share.
5. **Friends Social Media** - Jess built a Friends Facebook page in June. May want to use it to sell merchandise.
At the Social media meeting prior to this meeting it was decided that we would not use social media to sell Friends fundraiser items.
6. **John Rockwood** - Loon Man is available to do a presentation on Thursday, Nov. 14. The cost will be \$150. See New Business for more information.
7. The Library will present their budget at the Selectboard Meeting on 10/21/24 at 7:00PM at the Town Hall. Friends are encouraged to attend. This budget will include increases in facilities and staffing.

Old Business

Sisters in Crime Mystery Making - Thursday, Oct. 17th at AVS 6:30-8:00PM

- Charge is \$150 which is \$50 per author
- The event is free and open to all. Donations are gratefully accepted.
- Set-up at 6:00PM. This isn't much time so help is needed
- Cathy will contact AVS to check on the microphone, speaker, tables, chairs, and HVAC blower will be turned off. She will also bring the donation box Fay made.

- Volunteers for baked goods/snacks: Nancy, Fay, Patti A., Terry, Cindy, Brenda, and Marie
- Marie will get small bottles of water, plates, napkins, and has a donation jar
- Library has sent out a press release to Ink Link, The Hippo and the Union Leader
- Karen has listed this event on community calendar pages from WMUR, the Union Leader and a few others
- There is a Facebook page for this event. Those who have accounts are encouraged to click they are going to or interested in this event. Each person can share up to 500 times
- Jess has and will continue to share this event on several Facebook pages
- Whoever takes pictures at event, please share with Cindy to put on the website

Friends of the Library Group Idea Sharing Event - Oct. 10th from 3 at the Exeter Library. Carpooling was arranged with those who are attending.

Stationary and Note Cards - Nancy was not at the meeting so this item was tabled until the November meeting.

Santa Breakfast - Dec. 8, 2024 8:00-11:00 Set-up Dec. 7 3:00-5:00

- There will be a planning meeting on Wed. 10/16 at 5PM at the library
- The idea of offering a discount for Friends tote bags was presented. The decision was to sell the totes at regular price.

Duck Race - this event was a profitable fundraiser for the Friends. The total profit was \$1280. Pick-A-Duck generated \$505 of that amount.

Thank you to all volunteers, especially Pat C. who worked so hard on this event. A huge thank you to Judy Bellerose for the beautiful quilt she donated. The profit from the quilt raffle was \$1170! This is the most money ever generated by a non-event Friends fundraiser! Judy asked if there is interest in her making and donating another quilt which there certainly is. She mentioned making a Dr. Suess quilt which could be raffled at the 2025 Santa Breakfast.

Voting Day Fundraiser Sales Tote Bags and Ornaments - Cathy has volunteers set—up throughout the day.

Shed Cleaning - completed And it looks good! Thanks to all who helped!

Copying Friends Materials at the Library - The trustees agreed that the Friends need a few copies here and there the copy fee will be waived. For larger copying needs the fee of 10 cents/copy will be charged.

New Business

Author Visit - John Rockwood <https://www.facebook.com/THE.LOON.MAN/>

Dan contacted John and he is willing to do a presentation on Thursday, Nov. 14th from 6:30-8:00PM at the library. He will sell his book.

A motion was made to fund John Rockwood's visit for \$150.

Marie 1st and Cindi C. 2nd - motion passed.

- The decision was made that this event will be free, but donations are gratefully accepted. People will need to register for this event
- Jess and Jordan will work on a flier and social media
- Light snacks will be offered
- Dan will send Karen info to include in the Crier

Book Brick Decorating - Jess shared a "book brick" that she made at a craft event hosted by an Auburn resident. The library will host 2 Book Brick Decorating crafts nights. The Friends were asked to fund the materials needed for these events. No dollar amount was given. One will be on Oct. 16 and the 2nd date TBD.

<https://griffinfree.org/event/brick-painting-with-jillian-peterson/>

A motion was made to fund 2 Book Brick Decorating events

Pat C. 1st and Marie 2nd - motion passed

Friends of the Griffin Free Library Bylaws and Elections - According to our bylaws we need a nomination committee and annual meeting which is supposed to be held in October. Officer positions are for a 1-year term and can serve no more than 3 consecutive terms.

Annual meeting will be held during the November meeting. Pat asked all to consider taking a position on the executive board.

Pat is no longer able to serve as President as she has served 3 years. Marie will not be treasurer next year.

Potential Fundraiser- It was mentioned that Medium Liz Robidoux is willing to do another session for the Friends. In the past she volunteered her time for this event and it was a profitable fundraiser.

Action Items

1. All - share information on Creative Bug to increase interest
2. All - if you have boxes (copy paper size) donate to library to store donated book
3. All - share Sister in Crime event information on Facebook and other means
4. contact John Rockwood for All - attend Selectboard Meeting 10/21 to support library budget
5. Nancy - pricing for stationary and card to be discussed at Nov. meeting

6. Jess and Jordan flier and social media for John Rockwood event
7. Dan - send Karen John Rockwood info for Crier
8. Pat - per bylaws contact people to serve on a Nominating Committee and plan for annual meeting during Nov. meeting

Motion to at 7:40 PM

Next Friends' Meetings: **November, 4, 2024 at 6:30 PM*** at the library.

**Note earlier time*

Karen Murray

Secretary Friends of the Griffin Free Public Library