

NPL Friends Meeting

June 12, 2006

Attendees:

Carole Barker
Ken Bateman
Martha Barrett
Judy Blachek
Carol Eyman
Margaret Gleason

Ian Hyams
Stephanie Hyams
Vickie Meagher
Liz Ullrich
Betty Winburg

NEXT MEETING: Monday, July 10, 7:00 in Media Wing

Review of May Minutes & Reports

- May minutes approved.
- Treasurer's Report approved. Account balance at end of May: \$3439.46. We received \$363.69 in May from daily book sales (\$302.65/April; \$146.25/March).
- Membership Report approved. We now have 54 paid members.

Summer Library Program Coverage

Friends representatives will attend the various summer program events. Carol Eyman suggests that we have a table, give out brochures, etc. Programs include:

- Bach's Lunch Concerts – Wednesdays at 12 noon (Media Wing) (come at 11:30)
- Summer Concerts on the Plaza – Thursdays at 7PM (in Media Wing if it rains)
- Plaza Pics at Greeley Park – Fridays at dusk

Our schedule so far (see the attached Table for easier viewing):

July 13 – Summer Concert on Plaza: Ken Bateman
July 14 – Plaza Pics: Ken Bateman
July 20 – Summer Concert on Plaza: Martha Barrett
July 26 – Bach's Lunch: Carole Barker
July 27 – Summer Concert on Plaza: Judy Blachek
August 2 – Bach's Lunch: Vickie Meagher
August 3 – Summer Concert on Plaza: Judy Blachek
August 4 – Plaza Pics: Ken Bateman
August 16 – Bach's Lunch: Marjorie Morse
August 11 – Plaza Pics: Ken Bateman
August 17 – Summer Concert on Plaza: Marjorie Morse

Events not covered:

July 12 – Bach's Lunch
July 19 – Bach's Lunch
July 21 – Plaza Pics
July 28 – Plaza Pics
August 9 – Bach's Lunch
August 10 – Summer Concert on Plaza
August 18 – Plaza Pics (rain date)

Director's Update (Carol Eyman reported in for Joe Dionne)

- NH Magazine selects a "Best of" series; The NPL received Best of NH for film series (this was an Editor's pick).
- Live Homework Help (online tutors) program is popular. In April, 170 used it and in May, 171 used it. More used it at home in May; April had internal training, so numbers internally were higher. Kids provide comments/feedback.
- Biggest complaint about the library in a survey was cost of parking. Carol is initiating an awareness campaign so patrons know about parking cards and that parking is free at night and on weekends.
- New program for online audio books, called Tumble Talking Books. You have to be at your computer to use. In the future, there may be an Overdrive program where you can download them (but not on an IPOD).
- The Trustees approved \$2500 to do a book express. The library will get an extra copy of bestsellers and put on a special shelf; these books cannot be reserved or renewed and the reader has the book for one week.
- The three Friends officers attended the June Trustee meeting for introductions.
- Library is investigating disaster planning; not only regarding the people, but also the inventory and what should be saved.
- Library needs a new roof (cost is \$150,000); hasn't been approved yet.
- Library is increasing the number of CDs a person can take out from 5 to 10.
- Discarded books will now go to Better World Books, a non-profit, instead of dumping in dumpster.
- Budget cuts – passed in May by alderman; cut 5%. Library will be open few, if any, Sundays. Starting Sept. 1, will open at 9:00 instead of 8:30. Staff will need to shelve books in that half hour now. May have to close at 5:30 on Fridays, but not until September. Several pages will be leaving.
- Chandler Library closing for now. Building not on the market yet; needs to go through courts to determine if it can be sold.

The discussion of budget issues brought up a reminder that the goal of the Friends is to get a community voice that could influence decisions regarding the Library.

Fundraising Ideas

- We have the rights to the painting of the library by Paula Super; we could produce greeting cards, bags, etc. Carol got some prices, but all vendors want to see the artwork before final estimates.

Cards: \$527 for 1000...and higher. 50 cents a card. We would like to see a sample. A small committee will work with Carol on this effort (Ken, Judy, and Marjorie). Order time is 3-4 weeks; over 1000 is 8-10 weeks.

- Wayne Goulet has donated sculptures to be raffled or auctioned – picked Migraine one. Artist wants documentation on the sale of the sculpture.
- Stephanie Hyams creates picture quilts. She could quilt the Paula Super picture of the library for a potential raffle.

The thought was that we need some sort of "gala event" to have a silent auction, if we don't raffle. This issue needs to be discussed.

- *Nashua Then and Now*, by Robin Ann Peters. Judy contacted the publisher; we can get it on a returnable basis and have up to a year to return copies. We would pay \$12 for a book that is roughly \$20; we'd make \$8. We agreed to buy 50.
- NH Humanities Council – Carole Barker reviewed list of events and suggested several; we identified 8 but need to narrow down to 3:

Wild and Colorful: Victorian Architecture in NH
 A Conversation with John James Audubon
 Surveillance in the Post 9/11 World
 Songs of Old NH
 Camp Stark: NH's WWII German Prisoner of War Camp
 NH Cemeteries and Gravestones
 NH on Skis
 Rebecca Rule – Comedy

- Can we band together with Historical Society on a fundraiser? – suggestion from Margaret.

Infrastructure Update

- We have fundraising/membership tracking software to evaluate.
- Tax-free status – still working on getting assistance.
- Tina Donovan has volunteered to be Treasurer. (Yeah!!!! Thank you Tina.) She will be opening a new account for us.
- We will meet July 10 and August 14.
- We need to have a sorting party – the table in our sorting room is full. In addition, we need to get the upstairs bookcases filled. Judy has been doing it. Liz Ullrich offered to come in a couple of hours a week for awhile.
- Distribution list: Ken and Marjorie decided against using a Yahoo subscriber list; it requires work for members to join. The group agreed; we'll use Outlook. Both Ken and Marjorie have the list. If anyone wants to send something to the group, send it to Marjorie.
- Carol Eyman attended the Hollis book fair; the books were sorted and priced as follows: 50cents, 1.00 trade, 2.00 hardcover, 50cent juvenile, 2.00 videos & CDs, 3.00 DVDs.

Action Items

Judy: Order 50 copies of *Nashua, Then and Now*; get 1 counter pack if free [DONE]

Ken/Judy/Marjorie;

- Card/bag committee with Carol Eyman
- Review fundraising software

Carol Eyman:

- Get artwork from Bruce for Paula Super print and send to card/bag vendors
- Confirm with Joe Dionne that the Tax ID number we have is for Friends only [DONE]

All: Figure out when and how to raffle items

Carol Eymann/Ken: Call the 4 NH Humanities selections we identified to find out if they are appropriate choices

Liz: Sort books and fill bookcase upstairs