

Friends of the Nashua Public Library

May 8, 2006 Meeting

Attendees:

Carole Barker
Ken Bateman
Judy Blachek
Tina Donovan
Carol Eyman
Valerie Fletcher
Vicki Meagher
Liz Ullrich
Kathy Vitale
Sarah Widhu

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, June 12, 7:00 pm in Library Media Wing

4/13 Meeting Minutes Review

Approved

Treasurer's Report

Account balance May 1: **\$3064.37**

Successful book sale! Netted **\$1465.07** after expenses of \$81.93 for Saturday food. **\$160** in new membership fees collected that weekend brought event total to **\$1625.07**.

Daily book sales upstairs totaled **\$302.65** for April vs \$146.25 in March. Other expense: \$150 for brochures.

Membership

23 new members joined in April, most during book sale preview.

Current **49** paid members.

Book Sale Post Mortem (What went well? What could be better next time?)

Need more light for sorting, and large space for point of sale.

Do food on Preview Night again.

On Saturday, have another group do Bake Sale, or just have food for workers.

Need more organization of books for Saturday. (Accomplish by coming in earlier, starting sale later, bringing books up Friday night, or doing entire sale inside.)

If sales is outside, use Plaza area. More visible to library patrons.

Advertise Friends Membership/Preview Event more heavily.

Consider putting book sale coupon (\$1.00) on library web site.

Have library announce sale more frequently over loudspeaker.

Need more children's books

Charge less for videos. (\$3.00 too high)

Attend and report on other libraries' book sales for ideas.

Financial Request

Judy read a letter from NPL Young Adult librarian Jenn Jasinski requesting up to \$150 for charity donations for the teen summer reading program.

Request was approved.

Director's Update

Carol Eyman, NPL Outreach Coordinator, represented Joe Dionne. She reported that a Friends board member is welcome to attend the next Board of Trustees meeting on June 6 at 7:30 pm.

Carol discussed probable changes under the new library budget, including Sunday closing, 9am opening, and lack of funding for some programs such as museum passes. (Friends may be asked to help fund in future.) She stated that the new fiscal year begins 7/1, which is when the Chandler will close. She also noted that the library's movie licenses have been paid for until next February, so films will continue until that time.

Joe called the Chelmsford Public Library's director and asked for a member of their Friends organization to contact us. He also contacted the tax firm Melanson, Heath & Company and is waiting to hear back from them.

Fundraising Ideas

Book bags with full-color silk screen of NPL building (note cards, T-shirts?) sold and/or offered as incentive at discount with membership. Library owns rights to reproduce Paula Super oil painting displayed upstairs near Reference desk.

Four contemporary sculptures donated by artist Wayne Goulet to be raffled over period of time (summer), promoted at library events, and winners drawn at 8/24 Back-to-School Night. Raffle idea may be extended to other items such as baskets of books using best condition donated books.

Newly published historical photo book *Nashua Then and Now* for possible sale.

Carol suggested Friends use old library store location to sell items. NPL employees can ring up sales.

Ken suggested Friends staff all upcoming library concert events to promote memberships and sell raffle tickets.

Program Sponsoring Ideas

Judy presented the NH Humanities Council grant program which makes a variety of speakers affordable for the Friends to sponsor. We can choose three per year with ten week lead time. Carol uses the program now. She suggested getting feedback from other organizations who have used the speakers we choose before booking them.

Judy talked to Wendy Thomas about presenting a free Clutter lecture in the fall, with the date to be scheduled later.

Infrastructure Update

Tax-Free Status: See director's update and action items.

Web Page: Marjorie will update group at June meeting.

Treasurer: Tina volunteered with the condition that we switch to a local bank.

Summer Meeting Schedule: Considering not meeting in July. Final decision to be made at June meeting.

Paypal Subscription Choices: Ken reported on Paypal fee structures, and recommended to wait until we have larger member base to consider. Suggested surveying potential members to see if Paypal option attractive. Easy program to implement when/if decision is made.

Maintaining book sale area of lobby/Sorting: Maintenance is paying off, as treasurer's report shows. Judy asked Friends to sort books in East Wing and fill in upstairs when

they are in the library and have time. Judy and Carole reviewed sorting and pricing guidelines.

Using Yahoo for Member Distribution List: Setting up Yahoo distribution list will help with maintenance, succession of new officers, and in soliciting membership renewals. Ken knows how to do this.

Action Item Review

Judy: Attend Trustee's meeting, report back to group. Look into ordering *Nashua Then and Now* on approval.

Carole: Look through NH Humanities materials and develop list of prospects. Network with Carol on calendar for feedback.

Carol: Attend Hollis book sale on 5/13 and report back. Talk to sculptor to finalize items for raffle. Bring calendar of upcoming library events to next meeting so Friends can sign up to staff them. Talk to Bruce Marks about silk screening items. Ask about possible light installation in East Wing storage area.

Tina: Check with co-worker about tax forms, as backup person or for suggestions. Research local banks for possible switchover of Friends account.

Ken & Marjorie: Set up Yahoo distribution list