

Minutes of the Friends of the Portage Library Board Meeting

July 8, 2020

President Linda Floeter called the meeting of the Board of the Friends of the Portage Library to order at 4:30 p.m. in the Teen Activity Room at the library. Pam Beckett, Mary Grimm, Deb Lechner, Judy Morrow, Emma O'Brien, Linda Wendt, and Ed Zydowsky were present, as was Library Director Debbie Bird. Library Board President Karl Kindschi attended on Zoom.

Agenda – The agenda was accepted as presented.

Secretary's Report – Pam moved and Linda seconded a motion to accept the report Linda F. provided from the June meeting. The motion carried.

The **Treasurer's Report** showed a balance of \$4,382.26, with \$2,532.55 in savings. Judy noted that the only real income since March has been from the sale of books offered on consignment: one payment of \$173.66 and another of \$59.53. Pam moved and Deb seconded a motion to accept the report. The motion carried.

For the **Director's Report**, Debbie described the gradual reintroduction of in-person services. At this point, the library can be open at 10% capacity. Debbie expressed the hope that we can keep moving ahead slowly. Keeping safe distancing seems to be the key.

Library Board President Kindschi thanked Deb for her leadership. He relayed appreciation to the staff for making so many accommodations, and he encouraged the Friends to "keep up the good work."

As for committee reports, no numbers for **Memberships** were available.

The latest **Newsletter** came out July 1. The next issue is due out Sept. 1.

The **Book Sale** is scheduled for July 30, July 31, and August 1. Linda F. passed out a sign-up sheet for workers. Pam will begin phoning members to fill in slots. Debbie will be at the door especially on Thursday evening to help enforce social distancing. She will consult recommendations from the State to figure out safe numbers in the allotted space. The Board discussed how to insure social distancing through arranging tables, taking names of buyers who want to access the nonfiction in the back room, etc. Publicity will note that buyers should wear masks.

Carol provided examples of the postings on Facebook that she has done for **Publicity**. Posters for the Book Sale were passed out. Notices are being included in the craft kits that the library creates for children and teens each week.

Nominations for president and secretary are needed for the October election. Dorri will be leaving the Board, so a replacement for her is being solicited.

New Business – Deb investigated the possibility of the Friends having a booth at the Thursday Portage Farmers’ Market. A table and canopy would be provided. The Friends could offer books and puzzles and memberships. Fred Galley and Paul Haun are contact people for this. Pam moved and Deb seconded a motion to table this item until results of the book sale are available.

Information about T-shirts with the Friends’ logo was presented from DesignOneApparel in Portage. Shirts in most sizes would be available @ \$9.50 for 50 shirts. Pam, Linda W., Linda F., and Emma volunteered to be on a committee to investigate this further.

Old Business – Linda displayed the copy of *The Dutch House*, the book chosen by the Friends’ as its annual donation to the library collection.

Members discussed continued purchase of *Book Page*, a subscription shared with the DeForest Friends. DeForest has gone ahead and purchased a solo subscription. Getting 50 copies now would cost us \$354. Debbie will send inquiries to other Columbia County libraries to see if any of them would want to join Portage in sharing the cost of a subscription. Otherwise, we’ll wait until the 2021-2022 year and ask to coordinate a purchase with DeForest.

Amazon SMILE donations are being promoted by inserts in the Grab and Go bags.

Emma made a motion and Pam seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Grimm, Secretary

Next meeting of the Friends’ Board will be Wednesday, Sept. 9 , at 4:30 p.m. in the Sanderson Room at the library.