

Friends of the Brandywine Hundred Library Meeting – 13-Jan-2009

A meeting of the Friends of the Brandywine Hundred Library was held on Tuesday, January 13, 2009, in the library. In attendance were Jim Conrad, Joy Naquin, Kristie Moore, Lois Myoda, Agnes Galvin, Mary Bowler, Larry Nagengast and Danna Levy. Also in attendance was Library Manager Diana Brown. Claire Kantar joined as meeting was in progress. Jim Conrad called the meeting to order at 7pm. The meeting began after observing a moment of silence in honor of the late Tom Weaver.

Approval of December minutes

On motion of Mary, seconded by Larry, the board approved the December, 2008, minutes as Emailed.

Treasurer's report

Marcia was unable to attend the meeting. Eileen Lynch Emailed the December, 2008, financial reports prior to the meeting.

Meeting Date/Time

Jim proposed meeting on the second Tuesday of the month, with a start time of 7pm. The meeting room will be Room 107 (the former cafe). The board agreed by general consensus.

Diana Brown

Diana Brown has become Library Manager until a new manager can be hired. Diana is managing the Brandywine Hundred Library on a daily basis and also manages all libraries.

The Library Manager position will be posted and the recruitment of a new manager will be expedited as much as possible, in light of the budget and staffing constraints for the county. The following are the highlights of the cost-saving measures currently being implemented:

- Reduction of library hours (closed on Sunday, reduced hours on Thursday).
- Reduction in spending on library materials.
- Increase attempts to collect fines, fees, and charges for unreturned materials.
- Eliminate free printing and copies. Copies will be 25 cents per page.
- Reduce the maximum number of materials allowed per person; the limits for new borrowers will be even further reduced.

Diana also presented a request for funding of the children's summer reading program. Weekly incentives are a key part of increasing the completion rate, as they encourage children to visit the library every week. The request is for \$1400 to pay for the incentives. On motion of Mary, seconded by Danna, the board approved \$1400 for the summer reading program. A listing of the proposed incentives is attached to these minutes.

Communication

Kristie reported that the communications committee is back in business. Agnes and Larry have volunteered to help. Jim is taking over the "Dear Friends" column. The goal for this year is to get the newsletter out every two months, with distribution about one week before the monthly meeting. Future newsletters will include new materials and a calendar of upcoming activities.

Gardens

Jim has been in touch with landscaper Henry Pautler. Cost of maintaining the flower beds out front is \$100/month for 10 months. In May, Henry will install new plants, at a cost of \$300. Total cost for one year is \$1300. Shirley Stout, formerly of the Green Acres Garden Club, is now part of Brandywine Garden Club. Shirley has requested \$100 for plants for the children's garden. The gardening club will take care of planting and maintenance. On motion of Jim, seconded by Lois, the board approved up to \$1500 for maintenance of both gardens.

Delaware Humanities Forum

In light of the Sunday closing, the "Meet the Presidents" program has been moved to Saturday February 21, and will be held in Room 107. The library will handle the publicity. The program is scheduled for 1pm; setup will begin at 12:30. Claire requested help with setup from anyone who is available.

On motion of Claire, seconded by Danna, the board approved \$50 for light refreshments for this program. On motion of Claire, seconded by Lois, the board approved \$125 to purchase presidents' brochures for the program. Any brochures that are left over can be used as an additional incentive for the children's summer reading program.

Library Book Clubs

Kristie gave a brief update on the Brandywine Hundred Library book club. The club reads all genres of literature. During National Library week, the state poet laureate will make an appearance at the book club meeting. Meetings are on the third Wednesday of the month at 7pm.

Kids Health

Larry spoke about a former colleague who works at Nemours Children's Hospital and has authored a book about children's health for 8- to 12-year-old girls. All proceeds from the book are going to Nemours, a non-profit organization. The author would like to schedule a program at Brandywine Hundred Library to publicize the book, and requested help from the Friends with publicity and providing refreshments for the program. The book is scheduled for release in late February or early March. Diana reported that on March 28, there will be a county-wide library fundraiser. The library will approach organizations and ask for donations of \$1500, to support an hour of programming. This may result in a sponsor for the book program.

Membership Drive

Jim reviewed the work needed for the upcoming annual membership drive. National Library Week is April 13-April 18. Jim volunteered to serve as chairman for the drive. Mary volunteered to update the poster of Friends' contributions; Larry will help with the wording of the poster updates. Kristie will look into getting membership forms printed. Additional details will be resolved at the February and March meetings.

Adjourn

On motion of Claire, seconded by Larry, the meeting was adjourned at 8:41pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Joy A. Naquin
FBHL Secretary