

Friends of the Library Meeting September 26, 2018

Welcome: President, Marie Anderson, called the meeting to order at noon on Wednesday, September 26, and welcomed those attending: Mary Frieze, Tony Gies, Kathy Moser, Dani Buehler and Arlene Mari. Agendas for the meeting and the minutes of the August meeting were distributed for review.

Disposition of Minutes: Arlene Mari moved, seconded by Mary Frieze, to approve the minutes as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Tony Gies reported we have \$9,917.39 in our account. He has two outstanding bills to be paid: \$55 for the blowout of the sprinkler system and \$68 for the postcards used to mail to members in place of the newsletter. Tony indicated he had also purchased a role of stamps to use in mailing the postcards.

Report on Chokecherry Festival sale: Lyle and Evelyn Gorman sold over \$400 worth of the remaining Montana books. The sale for the event brought in \$1,164. Donna Philip has spent time in the Book Station moving books and creating much needed shelf space.

Book sale workday and workers: For the October book sale, Tony Gies will work the first shift and seek another volunteer to work with him, and Tom and Marie Anderson will work the second shift. Marie reminded everyone that tomorrow is a work day at the Book Station.

Upcoming events: On October 7, the Montana Repertory Theater will perform upstairs at the Library at 3:00 p.m. On October 13, author Russel Rowland will give a reading at 2:00 p.m., again upstairs at the Library.

Christmas sale: A discussion was held concerning whether it was worthwhile to try to have another sale of gently used Christmas items. It worked out well last year to have this sale the same day as the December book sale. It was decided to talk more about this at the October meeting.

Christmas Stroll: A suggestion was made at the Library Board meeting that the Library have a presence at the Stroll. Dani Buehler suggested the Library have a Christmas Stroll kickoff before the parade. Another suggestion was to have a Ms. Claus and elves hand out cookies before the parade. A suggestion by Connie Fry from the Lewistown Chamber of Commerce was to have the Elf Run route end at the Library. These ideas and suggestions would not be implemented until NEXT year; this was just food for thought.

Thank You: Marie purchased a card to send to Marcia Gans who recently moved to Bozeman. The card thanked Marcia for all her work with the Friends and wished her well. Marie will sign the card from all of us.

Director's Report: Dani talked to Jeremy Bristol about the salvia planted in front of the Library. They weren't doing well after a spell of hot weather, and Jeremy said he would readjust the sprinklers there. He said since the salvias are bulbs, they will bloom again next year or he will replace them.

Dani indicated there was discussion at the Library Board meeting of the Library partnering with businesses in town – setting up collaboration to help establish the value of the Library in the community. She also said the Board is considering the possibility of having a Fundraising Committee, which would include the Friends of the Library’s help. The establishment of a Library District is also being reconsidered for some point in the future.

Dani passed around a picture of a proposed garbage receptacle for replacing the current small plastic one out front. The container, by HCR, is metal with cutouts around the sides of a book and someone reading. The group consensus was this would be a visually attractive addition to the front of the Library.

Mention was made of the upcoming Chili Bowl held in January. Dani proposed the date of January 18, 2019 and asked everyone to check their calendars to see if that date would work. Once we determine a date, she will reach out to Jack’s Hangar to secure that facility.

Dani mentioned the possibility of 3 requests for funding in the future:

- 1) Nancy Watts is trying to modify her special collections area and needs dividers on the shelves to help hold and organize the copies of newspaper articles, etc., so the public can access this material;
- 2) Dani would like to get rid of the tall bookshelves in the Youth Area and get smaller see-through book shelves. These are more easily accessible by the children and the tall shelves are also a safety concern; and
- 3) Surveillance is an issue being considered for several reasons, safety being a major factor. The cameras would send an image to one central computer and it would be monitored from that station. This could also keep track of unauthorized activity on the patio area of the second floor. This might be a venture where the cost could be split between the Library and the Friends.

The Library is short-staffed right now and Dani is requesting that if we see or hear of anyone who wants to volunteer at the Library, to please let her know. It was suggested that perhaps she could put a request in the Library Happenings, run an ad in the News-Argus concerning volunteers or go on the radio with a request for help.

There being no further business to discuss, Marie adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Arlene Mari
Acting Secretary