

Friends of the Taft Public Library Meeting Minutes 5/24/2021

In attendance at the meeting were Gaye Porciello, Leesa Michael, Caitriona Scott, Andrew Jenrich, Tara Windsor, Lisa Bibring and Laina Pruet.

First off, Gaye requested and received approval of April meeting minutes.

Friends Revitalization:

Current status shows that (1) the Friends Facebook page continues to receive likes; (2) the position of Secretary of the Friends remains open and (3) the new Friends brochure will be uploaded to the Library website and copies will be printed out for placement on the Library counter and to be put into take and make bags. A large poster of the Friends brochure will also be placed at the Library and Post Office.

Trustee Update:

Caitriona attended the May Trustee meeting, which was the final meeting for three of the Trustees. The meeting was physical/virtual optional. Gaye shall be attending the June 9th meeting.

Library Update:

The Board of Health voted to abide by the Dept. of Health and CDC's recommendations and thus the Library is once again open for regular hours of business as of the end of May. Curbside shall continue for now. Patrons younger than 12 years and other non-vaccinated individuals are expected to be masked while in the Library. Furniture will remain off the floor, computers in the adult area will be open for 30 minute time slots but computers in the children's section will remain closed.

The library is planning on going fine free in the near future.

Financial Update:

The Friends have received donations in memory of Martha's (a former employee) sister. Outflows include a reimbursement to Sue (former Friend) and payments for the Garden Workshops.

Garden Workshops:

The first workshop was well attended and registration continues for the next event.

Book Sale:

The Friends book sale will be 9-1pm on 6/12/21, the day of the town wide yard-sale. Set up equipment is expected to be sufficient with tables from all the Friends and the Library, Library carts, Library pop up tents and Library crates.

Leesa suggested that following the book sale, book donations be made to Discovery Books, which is used by the Blackstone Library. Andrew is following up on this.

Paint nite:

Tara requested funding for a few canvas paint events to take place during the rest of 2021. Following a discussion of quantity and price, agreement was reached for five paint events for the rest of the calendar year. These events will remain virtual for now but are open to change. Tara will ask about other forms or variations of these paint events including watercolor and pastels.

Summer Reading:

The summer reading program is almost fully planned. Registration opens on 6/15. Outdoor in-person programming has been added, these will switch to zoom in the event of rain. The Library will be bringing back the worm race but not the cardboard boat race this year due to crowd control. The Library will make plans to connect with the local schools to inform them of the reading program.

Future Plans:

Over the course of the next year, the Friends plan to connect with Friends of other nearby Libraries to arrange a scavenger hunt through different towns in the Spring of 2022.

Next Friends meeting is scheduled for 6/28/21 @ 7.30pm.