

Friends of the Taft Public Library Meeting Minutes 6/28/2021

In attendance at this month's virtual zoom meeting were Gaye Porciello, Leesa Michael, Tara Windsor, Caitriona Scott and Hannah Sieber.

The May meeting minutes were approved and will be placed in the Friends website.

Friends Revitalization Initiative:

The Friends will continue to advertise the group (in the hopes of adding new members) via the new brochure, which will be made available via the library and virtually on the Facebook page. The position of Secretary needs to be filled and interested candidates will need to be voted in, per board policy. This will take place in August/September timeframe.

Trustee Meeting:

Gaye attended the June trustee meeting. She met Alison Chu, new Trustee and Sean Nicholson, the new school committee library representative. Ellen Agro is the new Trustee chair. Gaye updated the Trustees on recent Friends activities, including the idea for a future multi-town scavenger hunt via the local libraries in the spring. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 7/15/21, Leesa plans to attend.

Library Reopening:

The library is now fully reopened to the public and is keeping busy. Tara held the first outdoor story time and had a number of new families in attendance. Gaye has prepared and scheduled delivery of July and August emails, just waiting in final details of paint nite events.

Financial Update:

The General Account has been updated to reflect the proceeds of the book sale and donations made in memory of Hazel, a dear patron of the library. A leaf will be purchased and attached in her memory, and also a nice shrub and plaque, which will be planted by local Girl Scouts, who will be doing various plantings around the library. New leaves and a window decal will be purchased through Signs Plus and paid for by the Friends.

Gardening Series:

Two more virtual gardening series remain, in June and July. Leesa has paid for the programs to date and will ask the lady for headcount numbers.

Book-Sale:

The book sale was a tremendous success. Going forward we plan to go back to having more posters in local town establishments advertising the event.

Plant Fundraiser:

The fall plant fundraiser is going to be online only for the fall season. Leesa plans to start advertising in July. The bulbs will ship at the end of September, when ready for planting.

Summer Reading:

More than 100 people (children and adults) have already signed up for summer reading.

Other future events:

Caitriona emailed the group pictures of a story walk, clearly labeled with a solid reading structure. She will get in contact with the Boy Scouts to see if any of them would be interested in arranging a story walk around the perimeter of the library so that children always have access to a story, even if the library is closed.

Caitriona has contacted a local mead brewer about holding a fundraiser tastings in the early fall (9/17 or 10/1). Tara has offered to put the sign ups on the website and Leesa is checking the payment options. As the tasting facility is small, holding 10-15 people, it is expected that we might hold two one hour tastings, at 6.30pm and 7.30pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for August 30, 2021 @ 7.30pm