

Friends of the Ogdensburg Public Library  
January 12, 2022 Minutes

Present: Kathy & Tom Lawrence, Cheryl Ladouceur, Sheila Monnet, Ed Lavarnway, Thomas Robarge, Lin Griffin, Chris Becker, Ann Lesperance, Penny Kerfien

Excused: Laura Pearson

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 pm by president Ed Lavarnway. He welcomed Chris Becker as the new vice president.

MINUTES: Cheryl moved, Kathy seconded a **motion to accept the Dec. 12, 2021 minutes. Passed.**

TREASURER'S REPORT: \$5,000 was moved from the checking account to the savings account. Current balance in checking - \$8661.10 and savings - \$37,883.86. We received \$2,605 in membership dues since the last meeting.

Bookstore receipts are low. What can we do? List bookstore hours in the coming events column in the newspaper since it is free. (NO ONE TOOK RESPONSIBILITY TO DO THIS.)

Donna Barr donated \$5,000 to the Children's Library Program last year and only \$900 has been used to date. All Children's Library funding requests come from this fund. Suggestions for spending this money included new shelving in the Children's Room.

Annual report shows we had \$2,417.41 revenue over expenses in 2021.

Tom shared the NYLA recommendations - which ones we follow and which ones we need to adopt.

Discussion followed on current monitoring procedures. All are satisfied with the status quo.

Lin moved and Cheryl seconded a **motion to accept the treasurer's report. Passed.**

MEMBERSHIP: We currently have 117 members. Total membership dues for 2021 were \$10,756. Cheryl moved, Sheila seconded a **motion to accept the membership report Passed.**

NNYCF REPORT: We are very close to the official kick-off of the campaign. Friends donation can be made any time after this either as a lump sum or payments over 3 years. The term of the campaign is 2022 – 2024.

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank you notes from library staff and a card from Cindy Lyons-Hart were passed around for all to see.

OLD BUSINESS:

\*By-laws update – A committee of Laura, Tom and Ed will review by-laws and report out at the March meeting.

\*American Girl Event – No report since Laura was unable to attend the meeting.

\*Benches for Library Porch – Lin gave prices from the Park Catalog. **Cheryl moved, Tom seconded a motion to purchase two 5 foot benches at a cost of \$465 each. Passed.** Thomas will donate \$250 towards these benches and a plaque honoring his late father will be made to place on one of them.

\*Poetry Reading – plans for this event some time in the summer will be pursued.

\*Special Books – Kathy reported that she and Kathy Fahr have created a spread sheet for all the “special” books we have. They are shelved on the wall in the auditorium next to the elevator. She suggested listing these on line and/or having an event with wine and cheese where only special books would be for sale. This could include someone to appraise books for those who have books and are wondering about their value as well as to appraise our collection. There would be a small fee for this opportunity. Doing an event during Seaway Festival time would be optimal.

\*Calendar Updates – Eliminate the word DRAFT at the top of the calendar. Add a sentence about going to the Friends website and Facebook page to see the most up to date information.

TRUSTEE REPORT: There was a full quorum at the last meeting Loretta has resigned. The board sent out requests for interest in becoming a trustee. One name was sent to the City Manager and City Clerk, but evidently not the mayor, so no action has been possible yet. By-laws are being reviewed. Work on a strategic plan has been started. NNYCF has reported that the average gift given so far (largely from trustees) is \$475. Trustees are required to complete 12 hours of training each year. One possibility is a webinar which is being offered to explain a program that buys excess books and pays for their shipping. This would be a good way to deal with excess books for the bookstore and perhaps even make a little profit from them. The terms of the trustees are not evenly distributed now. Any new trustees will serve a designated term in order to stagger terms more equitably.

ROUNDTABLE: Free book coupons mailed to Friends in the thank you for joining are not being used. Only 3 have been turned in so far.

FUNDING REQUESTS: Penny requested \$700 for Children's Program expenses. **I do not have notes on a motion to accept this request.** Tom suggested we consider reapholstering the two brown chairs on the main floor that the Friends purchased in the past. Ed will locate the name of an aphilsterer in Massena that we could consider. There is also Mom & I in Theresa (or near there). **No action taken,** though a concensus seemed clear to go with this.

NEXT MEETING: February 9, 2022. On the agenda for the next meeting will be discussion of how to spend the \$5,000 donation to the Children's Library.

ADJOURNMENT: Cheryl moved, Kathy seconded a **motion to adjourn at 5:11 pm. Passed.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Lin Griffin, Secretary