

Friends of the Library  
Ogdensburg Public Library  
March 9, 2021

Present: Cheryl Ladouceur, Sheila Monnet, Penny Kerfien, Tom Lawrence, Laura Pearson, Lin Griffin  
Excused: Ed Lavarney

Meeting was called to order by president, Laura Pearson, at 4:05pm.

**Minutes** – Tom moved and Cheryl seconded approval of the minutes of Feb.

10. *Motion carried.*

**Treasurer's Report** – There is \$5,132.69 in the checking account; \$32,878.32 in the savings account.

Expenses - \$33.29 sales tax, \$19.99 ink for stamp pad, \$1,070 for library expenses as requested at the

February meeting, and \$639 for yard signs which was put on the Friends credit card.

Income - \$277.75 Amazon book sales, \$640 memberships, \$535 donations, \$2 note cards,

total = \$1,454.75.

Membership – 4 new memberships and \$1140 received. Total members – 122 for \$10,920!!

Correspondence – IRS form completed and submitted.

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

**Old Business**

1.

Laura will get a copy of the letter of request to Lowe's from Cindy and visit Lowe's to see where our request for pegboard stands.

2.

3.

Bookstore reopening – We will consider this again at the May meeting. We do not want to

4.

reopen only to have to close it again. Since it is not reopening and since we had a book sale

scheduled in April, it was decided to do another virtual book sale the week of April 5 – 9 which

is National Library week. Kathy Lawrence will organize this.

1.

Both a Personal Challenge Fundraiser and a Supermarket Sweeps fundraiser will be put on hold

2.

until after the referendum vote on May 18.

**New Business** - Meeting schedule – for now the same second Wednesday at 4:00 will continue. Post referendum this will be discussed again. A possible outdoor June meeting suggested.

**Trustee Report on Referendum** – Cheryl summarized work done and plans made to date:

1.

yard signs being made – to be placed April 1

2.

3.

brochure has been designed

4.

5.

radio interviews arranged for each week up to the referendum

6.

7.

Youtube videos will include testimonials as to value of the library, Children's library program,

8.

news about the Friends of the Library, and how the library is a good steward for the community.

1.

Looking for lots of Facebook followers – someone will need to regularly monitor the page to weed out any comments not about the library. New Facebook entries will be put up gradually.

2.

3.

Spotlight pages in North Country This Week are reserved - \$475 each.

- 4.
- 5.

Letters to the editor sought – two per week anticipated to both NCN and WDT. We should try

- 6.

to find some young people to write letters.

- 1.

Cheryl thanked the Friends for herself personally and for the Board of Trustees for all the hard

- 2.

work they are doing to bring out the vote on the referendum.

**Funding Requests** – Tom Lawrence requested \$150 reimbursement for treasurer and membership expenses for the past year. He will make such a request annually as needed. Cheryl moved and Lin

seconded the motion to pay Tom \$150. *Motion carried.*

Tom moved and Cheryl seconded a motion to reimburse Lin \$40 for ink used in printing *Motion carried.*

No other funding requests at this time.

Lin announced possible costs for mailing and radio ads at around \$2,000. Tom Moved and Cheryl

seconded a motion to allow Friends to spend up to \$5,000 for referendum expenses. *Motion carried.*

Laura asked about a Friends donation to the Northern New York Community Foundation in support of the library and suggested we visit this after the referendum. The Board of Trustees has already made a \$5,000 donation towards an endowment with NNYCF and if the Friends donate \$5,000 the total of \$10,000 may be matched by the foundation. Penny will check to see if this offer is still on the table and if there is a deadline for it. She has the latitude to move \$5,000 from Friends whenever necessary to secure the match if possible. If there is no reason to move quickly this can wait until after the referendum. Regular annual donations to the endowment through the foundation were suggested. We can promote our membership in the foundation and ask members of the Friends to contribute to it as well.

**Other Business** – Cheryl raised the question of reviewing/revising our by-laws. It was last done in 2017 and needs to be done again soon. A subcommittee will be appointed at the June meeting. Anyone with suggestions prior to that can offer them to Laura.

**Next Meeting – April 14 at 4:00 pm at the library.**

Meeting djourned at 4:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lin Griffin, secretary