

Friends of the Edgartown Public Library

Minutes of Meeting

Thursday, July 30, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Co-President, Ellen Gurnitz at 5:30PM.

Present were: Marvene O'Rourke, Janice Belisle, Jean Brennan, Adele Dreyer, Cornelia Hurst, Ann Williamson, Debby McLinnis, Betsy Campbell and Pat Rose

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the June 8th meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Janice Belisle reported that the balance in the checking account is \$5,178.82 and the value of the CD is \$15,979.06.

\$1,250.00 was given to Felicia for programs as part of our annual donation to the library. \$2,172.25 was transferred to the town for printing, copying and faxing expenses as voted by this group at our last meeting.

Discussion of how the Friends raises funds. It was explained that the calendar year for donations was extended in 2008-09 because so many new members signed up last summer. All Friends memberships must be renewed in January 2010, and from that time on membership will run January-January. A mailing will go out to remind members to renew.

Director's Report

Debby McLinnis reported that performers in the the Tuesday night music on the lawn series need to be paid for their services. Adele Dreyer who has donated her time to perform in the past, asked the purpose of the series. Ellen Curnitz made the point that last year the program was entirely volunteer, and its purpose was fundraising, but now it has been taken over by the library and is seen as a cultural service to the town.

Debby reported that a new sign will be ready in mid- August. The sign is a copy of the old one and will be used to publicize library events.

She also reported that the children's room has been very busy this summer due to inclement weather. Story hours have been overflowing, and attendance at Moon Rock events was high!

Nominating Committee Report

Janice Belisle reported that the committee has found candidates for the positions of secretary and treasurer but not for president and vice president. She expressed the need for year round residents who are willing to serve in these positions

New Business

Janice Belisle stated that In the past the Friends has paid for a pass to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. This pass is up for renewal, but it is rarely used. During our discussion it was pointed out that a pass for the Science Museum or the Aquarium would probably get more use, but these passes are much more expensive. It was suggested that Felicia explore the cost of family rates for library passes to more popular Boston museums and that she also explore the possibility of sharing a pass with other island libraries.

Pat Rose introduced a request from the Board of Trustees. The board would like the Friends to appoint a member to attend the trustees meetings. The board meetings are scheduled for the first Monday of each month at 5:00 PM. Co-President Ellen Gurnitz agreed to appoint a member to attend.

Ellen Gurnitz raised the issue of how the Friends can be of real service to the library and make itself known as an active group worth joining. One suggestion is to start a shelving project. Members could come in for a short while and shelve books in a specific section of the library which would be identified as the Friends section.

There was some continuation of the discussion about our role in sponsering events. Debby McInnis said that the library would be pleased to have us present events as long as the plans are in place by May.

Nest Meeting Monday, August 24th at 9:30AM in the library

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Betsy Campbell
Secretary