

The Friends of the Mount Carroll District Library, NFP

November 14, 2023

Present: Alan Rosenberg, Fayellen Sanetra, Nancy Veith, Pam Naples, Anna Gray

Present by Zoom: Nancy Gmitro, Carol Frey, Catherine Mahaney

Alan Rosenberg, president, welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Mount Carroll District Library and also on Zoom format.

Secretary's Report

Due to mechanical problems, the recording of the October minutes failed. Alan presented abbreviated minutes of the October 10, 2023 meeting. Motion by Fayellen Sanetra, seconded by Anna Gray to accept the minutes as presented by Alan Rosenberg of the October 10, 2023 meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

In the absence of the treasurer, Alan Rosenberg presented the September and October Monthly Treasurer's Report. Motion by Fayellen Sanetra, seconded by Nancy Veith to accept the September and October 2023 Treasurer's Reports. Motion carried.

Library Director's Report/Rehab & Expand Update

- Pam Naples, Library Director, reviewed scheduled programming. Legos, Wits Fit, Holiday Decorations with Master Gardener Nancy Gmitro, and Christmas with Mr. & Mrs. Claus are some programs being offered during December. Two classes, in cooperation with Highland Community College, were held at the Library.
- Laurel Bergren has secured a grant through Program Assist for up to \$20,000 to defray expenses for the railing for the accessible sidewalk project. When installed, the sidewalk and railing will allow individuals full accessibility to enter the building.
- Pam indicated that several Library Board members have expressed an interest in helping host the Farmers Market booth next year.
- Pam has a wish list of Library needs that she will share at the December meeting.
- The Library's Grand Opening is being considered for spring.
- Pam was thanked for recognizing contributions of the Friends in a Letter to the Editor.

Correspondence

None

Updates

- The **Farmers Market** ended the third successful season with a total of \$1,983.00 raised (\$1,973.00 book sales, \$10.00 membership). A Letter to the Editor was printed with appreciation to all who helped to make this a successful fundraiser. The Market was held from May 27 - October 28. Anna and Catherine hosted 19 Saturdays out of 23 scheduled. The last Market event was held during Pumpkin Fest and 12 children received a free book for stopping by in costume.
- Surplus books, 3 tables, canopy, tote with weights are all stored in the closet reported by Anna.
- *A How to Do the Farmers Market Book Sales* checklist has been compiled by Anna. Catherine and Anna will be available to help next season's Market volunteers.
- Anna reported that the Friends did not receive the **Rob-See-Grant**. Notification from the seed company by email showed a total of 566 applications were received and awards of \$500 were made to 20 organizations, none from Illinois.
- Anna stated that the Illinois Humanities has grant opportunities available with one example of Vision Grants for \$10,000 with May 2024 application date.

- **Illinois Humanities Road Scholar Program 2023:** Anna reported that Dr. Cooper's program about Jazz had 66 attendees and Cynthia Clampitt had 10 persons present. All required closing reports have been submitted. Appreciation was extended to Carol Frey and Catherine Mahaney for contributing refreshments for the events. Carol was also thanked for donating gift certificates to the members of the Stage Band.
- **Illinois Humanities Road Scholar Program 2024:** Anna and Fayellen met and selected a variety of speakers to contact for the upcoming year. Dennis Stroughmatt and Chris Vallillo, both musicians with historical messages, have agreed to provide presentations at the Library. Chris Vallillo will appear on Sunday, Oct 6, at 2:00 p.m. Dennis Stroughmatt will attend in May or June, date to be announced. Anna will apply for these engagements when performance dates are secured. Motion was made by members in September to proceed. There is no cost for these programs.
- **Bucky Halker** is available at \$400 on a private basis to give a program but he is fully booked through the Illinois Humanities. Discussion ensued. It was decided to wait on making any commitment for more programming of this nature at this time.
- Alan presented the **updated Friends brochure**. New colors, new wording and tri-fold format were the result of several committee meetings and assistance from Pam Naples. Please review and bring comments to the December meeting.
- Alan distributed an updated **membership list**.
- The contact with members through the **Zoom** format ended at this time and was unable to be reconnected.
- **2024 Fundraiser:** Alan has secured the cooperation of the Copper Cow for availability for a fundraiser to be held tentatively in April or May. More discussion at the next meeting.
- **Summary Financial Report** was presented for review. Discussion ensued. The report will be discussed at the next meeting.

New Business

- Alan distributed **The Friends of the Mount Carroll District Library Treasurer's Responsibilities** for members to review.
- **Election of officers** for 2024 will take place at the December meeting. Alan Rosenberg volunteered to serve as president for another year; Anna Gray volunteered to serve as secretary for another year. All members are encouraged to consider volunteering for an office position.
- Pam Naples reported that Santa and Mrs. Claus will be present at the library before the tree lighting ceremony. Alan offered to assist to help promote the Friends at the Christmas Walk event.

Adjournment

Motion by Nancy Veith, seconded by Fayellen Sanetra to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Gray, Secretary

NEXT MEETING: **Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Mount Carroll District Library.** The meeting will also be available in Zoom format with invitations sent by email by Pam Naples. Please inform Pam if you would like to receive a Zoom invitation.