

Friends of the Sharon Public Library Minutes, Board meeting on June 13, 2022 – held via Zoom. Prepared by: Joanne Blatte

Present: Joanne Blatte, Elizabeth Kassab, Amity Kelly, Kate Mason, Matthew Landau, Kashmica Sarkan (guest), Elizabeth Gonzalez James (guest), Lee Ann Amend

Key Tasks assigned at this meeting:

All:

Recruit new board members
Review new website

Alice:

Adopt a Book, as needed

Amity:

Carolyn:

Keep us updated on trustees' and new library issues
Look into a welcome flyer for new residents
Request banner placement for 2023 book sale

Elizabeth K:

Work with Matthew to become PayPal account mgr

Elizabeth GJ:

Ask Target to donate reusable shopping bags
Reach out to local groups/people about the Friends

Joanne:

Help with Website, Facebook, and Instagram

Kashmica:

Reach out to local groups/people about the Friends

Kate:

Handle membership and sponsorship tracking, as needed

Lee Ann:

Reserve community room for book sorting and sale

Matthew:

Handle memberships, donations, finances, as needed
Create a monthly financial report to show budget vs actual
Work with Elizabeth to make her PayPal account manager

We all introduced ourselves

Amity motioned to approve March minutes
Elizabeth seconded
Motion passed

Financial Report: Matthew

We raised almost \$8,500 from book sale and memberships. Matthew will create a monthly financial report format that shows budget vs actual

Elizabeth will input her personal info to replace Nancy Bass as the PayPal manager

Amity motioned to accept the financial report
Elizabeth seconded
Motion passed

Updates:

Our new website is now live. The board should review and give any edits to Joanne

Trustees and Director Update:

New trustee elected in town election. No info from the courts on library lawsuit

New library website is being worked on.

Library is changing reservation system from Eventkeepr to Assabet Interactive. A new server had to be purchased. Discovered that the WIFI access point wasn't working due to a faulty wire in the wall. The library will replace the wire, add a second access point, and move from the town's wireless network to OCLN's. Library is also redoing the AV system in the community room – a part is delayed due to supply chain issues.

Lee Ann will be out 6/23 – 7/4.

Book Sale Debrief:

We received very positive feedback from patrons.

We would like Carolyn to request banner placement now and ask to get position during the sale.

Tent outside helped attract people to the sale. We should have balloons, tent, or arrow signs calling attention to the sale "TODAY"

Consider: 1) raising the price of the bags to \$6/bag 2) changing pricing from 50¢ to 2 for \$1 or 3 for \$1 3) putting lawn signs at Shaw's and Cobb Corner 4) setting up bake sale outside (maybe on Saturday and Sunday) to attract people to the sale

Suggestion donation (\$1-\$2) for bake sale items went well. Ice cream truck drew a crowd by being on High St. Yai's truck was a little more hidden next door in the driveway but still attracted a crowd. We should create signs to direct people to food truck location.

People seemed to like that we limited the number of shoppers in the room.

Bag day: We don't have enough Shaw's bags for next year. We used approximately 280 bags at Sunday's sale this year. Elizabeth Gonzalez James will ask Target to donate reusable Target shopping bags. She will ask for at least 300.

Member preview day:

Some people came thinking they were current members when they weren't. We sent postcards to members but the need to renew was not clear. We think we should start membership drive in March/April and contact targeted members who NEED to renew. During that time, we could periodically (during busy times) have board members/volunteers at a table in the library with a bowl of candy to recruit members.

Kashmica and Elizabeth will reach out to friends and local groups as part of the membership drive.

We discussed how to contact the 130 people who submitted the library survey and aren't currently in our database. Kate and Alice had brainstormed some ideas.

We think we should have "receptions" in September (summer tough time to get people together) – community get togethers with refreshments. Focus on community building and soft sell about the Friends. Stress involvement/participation vs just paying dues.

Kate and Elizabeth will send an email now to reach out to the list, recap our successful book sale and tease our upcoming Fall events.

Events schedule:

We will not meet over the summer. We scheduled our board meetings: 9/12, 10/3, 11/7, 12/5, 1/9, 2/6, 3/13, 4/3, 5/1, 6/12

We reviewed potential events by month:

10/2 - a table at Sharon Day

10/20 – annual meeting. We are co-hosting a speaker with the library and Veteran's Club: Katherine Sherbrooke, author of "Leaving Coy's Hill" a historical fiction novel based on the life of the abolitionist, suffragist, and women's rights activist Lucy Stone. The library's adult book club will read the book.

Fall – multi-session writing program with Elizabeth Gonzalez James
Nov/Dec – Kashmica – paint event to create holiday/greeting cards.
Jan/Feb – Valentine-themed? President’s Day?
Spring – Chuck Hogan (rescheduled from October). Membership drive.
May – Green Day, Book Collection: May 1 – May 16, Book sale: May 18-21

Kashmica volunteered to host a paint event in Nov/Dec having people create holiday/greeting cards. Adults Only. Could be on Zoom, in-person or both.

We will not meet over the summer.

Our next meeting is Sept 12 at 7 pm.

Elizabeth motioned to adjourn
Amity seconded
Meeting adjourned

Future meetings: 9/12, 10/3, 11/7, 12/5, 1/9, 2/6, 3/13, 4/3, 5/1, 6/12