

FRIENDS OF BETHLEHEM PUBLIC LIBRARY
Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2009 7:00 pm

Present: Bill Acquario, Polly Hartman, Janna Harton, Marsha Levin, Mike Levin, Meryl Norek, Marianne Purcell, Mary Kim Purcell, Mary Trev Thomas, Mike Viscuso, Sue Viscuso, Elissa Zwiebach and guests Sandra Shapard and Nancy Smith

President's Report

1. The previous meeting's minutes were approved.
2. The business appeal was mailed this week. Elissa made labels that we can edit.
3. Polly shared the Cooperstown lunch and opera were great and the right amount was charged.
4. The Bronx Zoo trip is at the breakeven. Library staff are still sharing that there are openings. Perhaps this is not the ideal time of the year and we should consider late summer, before school starts. We can contact other Friends board at nearby libraries and offer them the same Friends discount rates too.
5. For the NYC December trip Mary Kim shared we have 36 so far. We've taken 2 busses in the past.

Treasurer's Report as of 9/21/09

Balance forward		\$8,400.01
Receipts		
Concerts	\$108.05	
Totes	240.00	
Applications (donations) ¹	445.00	
Glimmerglass trip ²	7,003.00	
Bears	<u>42.00</u>	
		7,838.05
Expenditures		
Cynder Ella's Subs	\$42.95	
Otesaga	933.52	
Wade Tours (bus)	<u>1,326.00</u>	<u>2,302.47</u>
Balance in checkbook		\$13,935.59
Allocated expenses		
Wade Tours		<u>\$2,652.00</u>
Net funds available		<u>\$11,283.59</u>

¹ Represents a total of 113 applications and \$4058 funds to date

² Represents a profit of \$1481.48

Note: Mike shared net funds seem higher than normal because it's the start of our fiscal year and commitments aren't listed yet (Storytelling Festival, Authors, etc.). Also the applications

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(donations) are lower this year than last year and last year was lower than the year before, perhaps a function of the economy and the new districting.

Liaison's Report

1. Mary Trev shared that we have 6 teddy bears left.
2. The 2pm Sunday Concerts at a total of \$1500 were approved.
3. Writers, Friends and Authors are not completely set yet. Mary Trev will share costs via email when she knows more. Susanne Alleyn is coming 11/8 (Marianne and Elissa will help sell at this event), Elizabeth Brundage plans to come 2/7, and Julia Spencer Fleming may be coming in April. We will not do bake sales at the author talks because the Library does receptions.
4. It was a busy August despite parking lot changes. The parking area should be done soon.
5. The YA teen area is being opened with new furniture.
6. Mary Trev will check to see if the library needs anything.

New Business

1. 2010 bus trips:
 - A Boston trip is being planned for April
 - Glimmerglass should be in July or August. A trip to Montreal could be in fall. Merrill and Mary Kim will explore possible events dates (checking on jazz, burlesque, and other Montreal festivals, fall foliage, etc). Travelers will need passports or enhanced NY driver's licenses to cross the border.
 - An Ithaca wine tour was put forward.
 - The Newport, RI jazz fest was suggested as an alternative to the Montreal jazz fest if passports are an issue.
 - Woodstock, performances there and the museum were also considered (Sue will explore this).
 - Possible trips to the larger Renaissance Festivals were mentioned. Janna will look into Sterling and Elissa into Sterling Forest.
2. For Sunday Music Marsha and Mike will again manage supplies. Everyone should bake as they can for these events to help raise funds. Coverage:
 - 11/1 Morey Hall, pianist-Marianne
 - 12/6 All Seasons Trio (flute, violin, cello ensemble) with seasonal music-Mary Kim and Janna
 - 2/14 Heartbeat, 3 singers with romantic songs-Marsha and Mike
 - 3/7 Bien Baez, mezzo-soprano doing art songs and arias in a variety of languages -Sue and Mike
 - Elissa will be on call as needed.
3. Marianne talked to Mark Lawson regarding an antique appraisal fundraiser. He's busy this year but could do something next fall of spring 2011 like we did in 2000 where we charged per item or for 3 (max 3 items). He doesn't charge us (Friends gets the \$); he gets referrals. For large items a picture would suffice. He'd like to work with Dennis Holsman. He'd like us to pay for lunch and allow him to preapprove publicity. Mary Trev will check that the library will support Mark. We would need to advertise well, maybe the TU blog and an EBay competition.

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4. Nancy Smith from the Library Board shared the Board's appreciation for the Friends' work and said they "hold us in the highest esteem" and feel "very lucky" to have such an active group working on behalf of the Bethlehem Library. In library focus groups, much of what was talked about were our events.
5. If you have a Friends Board Member magnetic name tag, please drop it off in the Friends library mailbox. We only have few tags and those hosting events should wear them. Leaving them in the library mailbox would be a convenient spot to pick one when hosting.

Meeting adjourned 8:00 pm

Next meeting: November 30, 2009 at 7:00 PM