

Minutes  
Friends of the Osceola Public Library  
8/13/14

Present: Barb Wetzel, Kathie Nelson, Marian Quinn, Maureen McElrath, Mary Clare Huberty, Sherry Hanson, Steve Schanback, (new member) Rebekah Palmer

Call to Order – President Barb Wetzel called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

●**OPL news & needs** – Kelly told the group that she had recently submitted her resignation to the Board, and explained her reasons for doing so. One of the main reasons was overwhelming job responsibilities due to Mill Pond Foundation activities related to a new library. The Board did not accept her resignation, however, and asked Kelly to reconsider based on the Board's willingness to make some needed changes. So Kelly agreed to wait through the end of August, to see if the changes will impact her decision. One of the changes that will go into effect immediately is that Ellen Rosenow will now be in charge of adult programming and volunteer coordination. **As staff take on more responsibilities Friends will be needed to volunteer with ongoing library tasks (such as shelving books, etc.) as well as assisting Ellen with adult programming.** Friends interested in helping should contact Ellen directly. Mary Clare offered to work with Ellen regarding needed volunteers.

●September is National Library Card month— Library staff have been working with local businesses to have a special promotion urging customers to sign-up for a library card.

●Training for trustees & Friends—Aug. 18-21 @ OPL, noon – 1:00 p.m. There will be webinar based training intended for trustees and other people who are involved with promoting library usage next week. Please try to attend whichever days you can! Let Kelly know if you are coming, as she is providing lunch for attendees.

●Monday – Assessing Library Facility Needs in the 21st century

●Tuesday – The Role of Social Media in Library Advocacy

●Wednesday – The Biggest, Baddest Issues Facing Public Libraries

●Thursday – Building the Future By Building Your Staff

●**Treasurer's Report** – The final tally of GiveBig funds is noted in this report, as well as minor activity for the months of June and July. A separate report with just GiveBig funding information was also passed around for members to view; all outstanding issues have been resolved.. Treasurer's Report and last month's Minutes were unanimously accepted.

●**Book Sale** - Trucks and/or trailer(s) needed (Roger's not available). Maureen will put up a new page on the volunteersignup.org page for fall book sale volunteer recruiting. She will also be responsible for confirming volunteers and getting the info to Sherry & Jodi before the sale. Maureen will also contact Polk County recycling to see if the book bin at the recycling center can be emptied before the sale date, so we can send any hardcover books not needed for the next sale. Paperbacks can be recycled at the

containers at the train depot recycling. Mary Clare will work with Ellen to draw up written guidelines for discarding books at the end of the sale. Sherry will contact Glenna to ask her to send out public service notices regarding the book sale, but other advertising is not necessary because the sale is included in Wheels & Wings advertising. Barb will try to get confirmation from the Village regarding other storage area for books over the winter. We cannot keep books in the warming house after the end of November. Kathie Nelson will ask her son Mark about use of a covered trailer & will bring her awning for cashier area.

- Steve Schanback offered to contact Kelly about restoring used book cart to library; suggested having only hardbacks at \$2 each.

- Polk County Friends**—is being hosted by Osceola Friends on Sat., Nov. 1, 10 a.m. Ideas are needed for programming and for meal to be provided. Barb reminded the group that there is a considerable amount of money from a grant that is to be used for technical services. At this point, there is not a lot of programming utilizing the funds. **Should the meeting agenda include discussion on how to provide more tech programming?**

- Trustees/Friends workshop in River Falls in June**—Barb & Jan attended the workshop. One of the ways the Friends can help support the library is to attend their township meetings, to increase library visibility and actively advocate whenever there is an opportunity. Building relationships with board members will be extremely helpful for the future of the Osceola Public Library! The township monthly board meetings are scheduled as follows:

Town of Osceola—2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday

Town of Farmington—1<sup>st</sup> Monday

Town of Alden—2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday

Village of Osceola—2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday

**Author program for fall?** Kelly asked if we intended to invite an author. Rebekah Palmer offered to work with Barb to locate a writer who would present for a nominal fee, since that was objection of group when this was last discussed. Glenna had reported on fees charged by “big name” writers, which seemed unfeasible for our budget. They will coordinate with Kelly or Ellen.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, Sept. 10