

Minutes
Friends of the Osceola Public Library
4/9/2014

Present: Barb Wetzel, Kathie Nelson, Maureen McElrath, Mary Clare Huberty, Sherry Hanson, Joleen Pederson, Kelly McBride

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

- **Minutes – Correction to March Minutes:** Report regarding the status of new library building, given by Marcia Dressel, was an update from The Mill Pond Learning Foundation, not from the Library Board. Minutes approved with that correction.
- **Treasurer’s Report** – Kathie provided the Treasurer’s Report for March. Treasurer’s report unanimously approved.
- **giveBig** – Barb provided members with a giveBig button and information sheet. The library will be one of the sites where people can drop off their donation on giveBig day. Volunteers are needed at the library that day to collect donations and answer questions. Members at the meeting volunteered to help out that day with 2 hour shifts. Barb requested that members wear the giveBig buttons when out in public, and to encourage as many people as possible to give on that day.
- **Author event** – The group discussed the Diane Wilson event that was held on Monday, April 7. Everyone agreed that the library worked out well as the location for the event. It was pretty well attended, most of the chairs provided were full. There was way too much food, again. The group agreed that at future events, we may just do one batch of cookies, (or other small item) and water and coffee. In addition, there was discussion regarding the effectiveness of newspaper advertising. Joleen suggested that having a handout at Dick’s Market might be more effective in getting the word out to local residents. There will likely be additional discussion before the next event.
- **OPL News & Needs** – Kelly thanked the Friends for the gift of a monitor to display upcoming events and OPL news. She has received it, and it will get mounted as soon as a Village maintenance worker is able to get to it. Kelly asked the Friends if we would be interested in becoming a “favorite charity” on Amazon. That would allow Amazon customers to make a donation to the Friends when they are making a purchase on the site. There were some questions regarding how that would work, so Kelly will research it and let us know at a future meeting. Kelly then asked for help from the Friends in paying registration and meals costs for her and for Joel for an upcoming conference in Las Vegas. Both she and Joel will be paying some costs themselves, and some costs may be covered through the library budget. However, when pitching the idea to the Board, the Board asked that she try to find other ways to help defray the costs, such as Friends contribution or grant requests. The Friends took the request under advisement, and will respond at a later meeting.
- **Act 150/ Paul Ryan federal budget proposal** – Barb informed the group that initiatives to educate the Polk County Board of Supervisors on how libraries are funded, and what requests will be coming to the Board re: funding, will be starting up now that the election is over and Board members are in place. She also distributed a copy of an e-mail from Leah Langby, who is responsible for legislative issues at IFLS. The e-mail reads ***“Our trustee Michael Norman shared the information that Representative Paul Ryan’s proposed alternative federal budget recommends dismantling the IMLS, which is the organization that provides LSTA funding to our state. LSTA funds positions at the state level and state initiatives like Growing Wisconsin Readers. It also provides technology funding for our system, which allows us to pass on savings and assistance to you. It also provides funding for special grant projects (like this year’s Early Literacy grant that IFLS is participating in) that allows libraries to reach out more effectively, systems to provide excellent continuing education offerings, etc. Here is an article about the decision: <http://www.districtdispatch.org/2014/04/house-budget-dismisses-role-impls> We thought you should know this information. Please act or share as you see fit.”*** Barb stressed that members should consider contacting Paul Ryan’s office to share their thoughts on this proposal.
- **Book Sale** - Storage is now available at Oakey Park, at least until the fall book sale. Possibly there will be other Village provided space at that time, but that is contingent on other events. The group discussed advertising for the Rhubarb Days book sale, and decided no additional advertising was needed, as the book sale is listed in all

the Rhubarb Days advertising. RCU will be doing a book drive again, to assist in collecting books for the sales. We will ask that they include information in their advertisements, if possible, that we do not accept encyclopedias, as they are difficult to deal with, to sell, or to dispose of if not sold. Sherry and Joleen are co-chairing the sale, and have the process well in hand.

Barb adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Next meeting of the Friends of the Osceola Library is **Wednesday, May 14 2014** at 5:30 p.m. at the library. **All Friends are encouraged to come!**