

Friends of the Blackstone Public Library
Meeting Minutes – November 20, 2018

Denise called the meeting to order at 6:53 p.m.

Attended: Denise, Julie, Karen, Lisa, Mary Lou, Paula

Minutes from the last meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

\$4,626.42 is currently in our bank accounts.

We made \$775.00 from the Fall book sale.

Library Staff / Trustees:

Lisa submitted two requests totaling \$250.00 that was approved tonight.

\$150.00 to host the band, The Whiskey Knights, in either February or March.

\$100.00 to host children's book author, Mark Parisi. A cartoonist and the author of the Mary Pants books. He will hold a program for ages 8 through 12 to teach this age group about how to develop a character and write a book. Date to be determined.

Review of Fall Book Sale:

Mary Lou offered some suggestions:

She asked if we are open to boxing the books by a number system to make it easy for workers to move the books on set up night, among other benefits. She will make a reference chart.

She asked that we don't mix genres in the boxes. Each box will only have one genre.

She is willing to get boxes at Thrifty Discount Liquors when we need them. We can send her an email when we need them. Denise said she will go into the store and introduce herself, so she can also get boxes when we need them.

Mary Lou asked that we be more selective about donated books that we accept. A library in Canada had to be shut down because it was infested with bed bugs from donated books. A discussion was held on this subject with the group being in agreement that this is an ongoing issue. Possible solutions were discussed at length. We will put an article in the Enlightener in January reminding residents of the types of books that we do not accept.

We also discussed the maintenance of the ongoing book sale area.

Denise suggested that we have the student volunteers work in two shifts on the book sale day. Because most of them come at the beginning of the book sale and stay for hours. And then often get picked up from their parents before the end of the sale. We need help at the end of the sale when we are loading the books into the gaylords of the book donation company. Six students on set up night before the book sale will be good. The two shifts on the Saturday of the book sale can be 8:45 – 11:30 a.m. and 11:30 – 2:00 p.m.

A discussion was held on throwing books out from the ongoing book sale area. There are certain rules we have to follow in discarding the books into the dumpster outside the library. Custodian Russell will handle bringing the books into the dumpster. Julie is familiar with how the books need to be broken down to be discarded. She will let us know when she needs help.

Denise started sending thank you cards to local businesses. She will send one to Thrifty Liquors for giving us boxes through the years. She has sent one to The Millerville Club.

Denise would like to book next year's Beer and Dynamite fundraiser in January. She will check with The Millerville Club on possible dates. Graduation next year is on June 7th. We could possibly hold the event on May 31 or June 14.

Karen suggested a Casino Night as a possible fundraiser for early Spring at The Millerville Club. Paula will call a casino night hosting company to start. She'll let the group know if they come out as far as Blackstone and if they have any availability in March.

Karen thought of having a PBS style membership drive. For example: we can give a mug at a certain level donation; a t-shirt at the next level; and a tote bag at the top level. She will check with print companies to begin.

Instead of having a regular monthly meeting next month, the group agreed to have a holiday party at Karen's house on that night. The date is Tuesday night, December 18 at 7:00 at Karen's house at 60 Mendon Street. Members can bring food and drinks and we will hold a \$10.00 Yankee Swap.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48.