

## Friends Minutes

12/9/2019

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
  - a. November minutes were unanimously approved
3. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Lajeane was not in attendance due to family illness, so November's Treasurer's Report will happen at the next meeting.
4. Library Report
  - a. Building Report – Nicole reported that the new library facility was on track, and that lights would be installed next week. March Grand Opening is looking good!
5. New Business
  - a. Summer Reading Program – Needs
    - i. This year's summer reading program's theme is Storytelling/Fairy Tales, and Susan, the library's programmer, is looking for a splashy set piece to start the summer. One idea is a giant paper mache castle to be temporarily installed in the children's area of the new library. Obviously a task like this would need a lot of hands, and Max hoped that the Friends could help promote and connect volunteerism with the project. We'll know more about what Susan needs and is looking for in the coming months.
  - b. Activities for the Grand Opening
    - i. We need to start thinking about what we want to do for the Grand Opening of the new library. Nothing is required, but Max thought that this was a unique opportunity, and that the Friends should have a presence there. Ideas that were tossed around included:
      - A prize wheel, with books, or some kind of reward.
      - Finger food
      - Maybe book a children's performer?
- c. Swag
  - i. The Friends have essentially sold all of their tote bags and T-shirts, and it's time to order more. With the new library logo—and the grand opening right around

**ACTION ITEM: EVERYONE: Brainstorm ideas for the grand opening. If there are things that could have a cost associated with them (prizes, a performer, etc,) figure out what they might cost, and bring them to the next meeting.**

the corner, this is a good time to refill the coffers. David suggested an order form, although Max wondered if we wouldn't do better with physical items. Natalie and Max talked about the balance vs. risk of getting something familiar (T-shirts, tote bags) vs trying something new (mugs, something else new.)

**ACTION ITEM: DAVID:** get quotes about T-shirts and other products for the Friends to consider at the next meeting.

- d. How can we grow?
    - i. With the Friends group looking a little smaller than we would like, David wondered how we might foster growth in the organization. Ideas considered included:
      1. Word of Mouth
      2. Push card notices at the desk for upcoming meetings
      3. Inclusion on the library social media and mail lists
      4. Having sign ups for Friends at events
6. Continuing Business
- a. Bake Sale – Max reported that the bake sale was a success. Between the book and bake sale the library made around \$500.
  - b. Visit from Santa
    - i. Cancellation – With Liz Daniels unable to provide the backdrop for the event, the Friends decided not to hold the Santa event this year. Max wondered if we wanted to do the event next year at all, given that we're already competing with other Santa visits in Tonganoxie.
    - ii. Ideas for next year- Donna mentioned the possibility of reviving an old Christmas fundraiser that the library had done previously. The idea is to have local businesses decorate small 3 ft Christmas trees in the style of their business—so a florist shop might decorate their tree with flowers, etc. Trees would be displayed in the library, voted on by the public, and auctioned off to raise money for the Friends. Max looked into the event, and found out that the library stopped doing it because other organizations had started doing something similar. Essentially, it was a victim of its own success. But, he said, if no one else is doing that now it would be great to try again. Max also said that he'd seen libraries in New Hampshire do a similar event with wreaths, which would take up less space. Donna wondered that if Christmas was too crowded, perhaps we could do autumnal wreaths.

**ACTION ITEM: EVERYONE: What kind of events are churches and local organizations doing for Christmas? Is anyone else doing the Tree/Wreath thing? Would it be a good space to move into? Find out, and we'll revisit in January.**

- c. Quilt Raffle - The group looked at the quilt made by Patty Szini (amazing!) and decided to have a raffle to win it, as they did in the previous year at basketball home games. Max is creating a sign-up sheet for the various games a member will need to cover. [The sign-up sheet is attached to this email.]

**ACTION ITEM: EVERYONE: Sign up for a spot on the raffle schedule, if you can spare a Friday night.**

- d. Tri-fold – Max showed a draft of the tri-fold flyer to introduce patrons to the Friends. Members will review it before the next meeting, and give him feedback. [The unrevised Tri-fold is attached to this email.] Suggestions made at the meeting included:
  - i. Lightening the blue background so that the text is easier to read.
  - ii. Larger font
  - iii. Replacing the tour photo with something more dynamic

**ACTION ITEM: MAX: Present a revised tri-fold flyer at the next meeting, and email it out to the Friends one week prior to the meeting.**

- e. Website Update
  - i. Max didn't get to this, the louse! Next meeting!

## 7. Officer Elections

- a. Max looked it up, and these will happen in March.

## 8. Adjournment