**Friends of Peninsula Community Library**

Meeting Minutes, Wednesday, October 18, 2023

The meeting, held in the Community Room of PCL, was called to order by President Marcia Decker at 1:30 p.m.

**In attendance:** Margieanne Alfonso, Braun Campbell, Phyllis Cooley, Nancy Davy, Marcia Decker, Becky Dykstra, Annemarie Erickson, Diane Esia, Becky Gagnon (for Vicki Shurly) Mary Kennedy, Ellen Kerr, Gladys Maguire, Ann Merritt, Madelyn Ryan, Robbin Stott, Nancy Tucker, Michele Westcott. (Seventeen in attendance.)

**Review of the minutes:**

The minutes were presented by Nancy Tucker, Secretary. Mary Kennedy presented a motion that the minutes be approved. Madelyn Ryan seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

**PCL Library Director’s report:** Library Director Vicki Shurly is away at the Michigan Library Association conference. The report was given by Becky Gagnon.

* Congratulations on “Cheese, Chocolate and Chardonnay.” It was a success, bringing in people who had not been to PCL previously and providing an evening of fun and information. Comments were mostly positive. Several suggestions as to what we might change have been taken under advisement.
* The driveway was resealed and restriped.
* Due to huge heating/cooling bills, D&W came in to test and clean. Parts were replaced and a sensor was found faulty. Monitoring will continue.
* The AV and lighting systems have been upgraded and are working perfectly.
* The angel atop the roof, whose name is Herald, needs repair on her wing. Originally, she came from Haiti, then graced a windmill at the Tim Carroll homestead before Mr. Carroll donated it to us. The fire department helped bring her down and an artisan welder will be making repairs. She is not a religious symbol, as she is being used as a weathervane.
* Harvest Fest planned for Saturday, October 21 with storyteller Jenifer Strauss, crafts and snacks.
* Day of the Dead program on November 1 at 6:30 pm with Cruz Paniague-Pardo.
* Groundwork Center staff on November 2 at 6:30 pm to discuss their new book *Shared Abundance,* which highlights the importance of locally grown food.
* The last blood drive for the year will be November 15. Sign-up link will be posted soon.
* A watercolor class on November 28 at 2 p.m. will be hosted by Becky Dykstra. Sign-up required.
* A holiday party with Santa in attendance (via the Peninsula Township Fire Department truck) will be held on November 26. Crafts, hot chocolate, cookie station in the Carriage House with Friends volunteers. Patrons can snap their own pics with their child and Santa.
* Old Mission Peninsula School will participate with PCL in an all-school read for families this winter. The book is *Hello, Universe* by Erin Entrada Kelly. Each family will receive a free book to keep.
* The Library of Things received three suggestions at the CCC gala: a keyboard, fishing rods, and a polesaw (tree trimmer). These will be considered.

Two items have been suggested as funding opportunities for the Friends:

* Special signs that have both Dewey decimal numbers and pictures as to what those represent. To replace the adult nonfiction signs and the children’s fiction markers will cost $800.
* Garden furniture (Adirondack style chairs) that will be cozy and pleasant. BARCO has provided a quote of $2,923 for 2 armchairs, 1 bench, 1 side table, 1 coffee table, with a 50-year guarantee against breakage.

After some discussion and a look at pictures of these items, it was decided to put these items to a vote. Nancy Davy made a motion to purchase the shelf signs at a cost of $800. Robbin Stott seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Nancy Davy made a motion to purchase the garden furniture at a cost of $2,923. Braun Campbell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**Friends’ Board Member reports:**

**Vice President:** Vice-President Madelyn Ryan shared her thoughts about our projects. The gala was very successful and required lots of time and energy commitments. We need people to work on events like the gala and our large book sale projects. We are considering how we can include others in our work. We have thought about a change in the time of meetings, especially if we are to draw in those who are younger. Discussion was held, which included the following: Zoom meeting in the winter, a survey of when people would like to meet, table at events with a sign-up sheet for future events, asking our target audience what they would like.

**Secretary**: Secretary Nancy Tucker pointed out that the minutes of past meetings have been posted to the website. The most current minutes are available within a few days of the meetings.

**Treasurer:** Treasurer Mary Kennedy presented information about our financial status (details available by request). We exceeded our budget projections for operating receipts in membership, bricks, donations, and book sales. We have paid our yearly obligation to PCL for programs and services, plus have been able to fund several special requests from the library. Our total contributions were over $24,000 with more to follow this year. Our current bank balance is $21,122.

In addition, Mary explained that we had the opportunity, through Huntington Bank, to move some of our funds from a standard checking account to a money market account that pays interest. We moved $15,000 to the money market account on 9/18/2023 and have earned $26 thus far.

**Membership chair**: Membership Chair Robbin Stott compiled this report:

As of Monday, October 17, we have the following:

 Individual members – 38

 Household members – 70, (140 people)

 Total members – 178 members

Last year, we had 189 members. There are now 60 Lifetime Members, with 7 joining in 2023.

We have our first 3 members for 2024 – 1 household (2 members), 1 individual.

**Brick orders**: Michele Westcott explained that brick orders have been submitted, and the bricks are due to ship on October 30. Once reviewed and inspected, bricks will be installed in the spring.

**Old Business:**

**Elections:** President Marcia Decker introduced the nominating committee—Madelyn Ryan and Robbin Stott. Two positions are ready to be filled, Secretary and Treasurer.

The previous treasurer, Mary Kennedy, has been nominated for this two-year position. Robbin Stott moved to accept Mary Kennedy as treasurer again. Phyllis Cooley seconded the motion. By unanimous voice vote, Mary Kennedy was elected as treasurer.

The previous secretary, Nancy Tucker, has been nominated for this two-year position. Mary Kennedy moved to accept Nancy Tucker as secretary. Anne Marie Erickson seconded the motion. By unanimous voice vote, Nancy Tucker was elected as secretary.

**Book Sale:** Our annual summer book sale ran from August 1 to August 17, including set-up and tear down, with the actual sale days August 9-August 16. Our final total receipts were $7,294.64.

In addition, in the first quarter we collected $700 in the holiday book sale; in the second and third quarters we collected $593 in the beach read sale. This brings us to $8,587.64 collected in total book sales this year. (No one understands the 64 cents.)

**Trustees:** President Marcia Decker explained that two of our trustees (directors) have asked to step down from our board of directors. With thanks for their service, we say good-bye to Michele Westcott and Lisa Taylor. Both of them expect to continue to be involved, but on a lesser level. We have one replacement, Braun Campbell, who was in attendance at our meeting. We welcome Braun. One position is still open; however, it should be filled within a few weeks.

**Art Sale:** The chair of the Art Sale, Becky Dykstra, shared the following report:

On Saturday, September 23, 2023, from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. the Friends of PCL hosted an Art Sale at the library. There were 22 tables with 18 vendors: 14 tables in the community room, 2 tables in the vestibule, 2 tables on the front porch, 4 tables in the Carriage House. The table fee was raised to $50 per table. A total of $1000 was raised for the library. We had a great turnout on the day of the event. After the event, an email was sent to all participants, along with a photo of their booth, thanking them. There may be some changes as we go forward, including the possibility of changing the time to 10a.m-3p.m., putting more emphasis on art than crafts, changing the signage to make it more visible, but it was a successful event.

Becky asked for ideas about artists. It was suggested that ArtFair.com may have information.

**December Newsletter:** The deadline for articles is 11/15/2023.

**Cheese, Chocolate & Chardonnay:** The gala was held on Sunday, October 15, 2023, from 2-5p.m. It was very successful. We sold 106 tickets at $25 or $30 each. The final accounting is not yet complete, but including tickets, Silent Auction, raffle tickets, and vintage book sales, we expect to make over $3,200.

**New Business**:

* Sponsoring an Event Checklist – Madelyn and Marcia will work on developing an event checklist so that we have some consistency in the events we sponsor.
* As mentioned earlier, a children’s party at the library will be held on 11/26/2023. Santa will join us via fire truck. Crafts, hot chocolate, and cookies will be part of the event. Patrons can snap their own pictures of children with Santa.
* Winter Warming Book Bundles will be held from 11/27 to 12/30. Patrons may purchase a bundle of books from the display in the lobby. Wrapping of bundles will be on Wednesday, November 15 at 11:00 a.m. Bring ribbon or rely on our supplies.
* Holiday Sing-Along at the library in December. Date to be announced.
* Coloring Party/ Art Supply Drive 3/11/2024

**Help Wanted:** Marcia Decker passed around sign-up sheets for the various events we have coming up, including the children’s party, Winter Warming bundle wrapping, and collecting books for the book sale this summer, which is the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month from 4-6p.m., beginning with January 15, 2024 (no collection on the first Monday of January which is January 1).

**Thank you** to Michele Westcott for her years of service as the Membership Chair, the Bricks Chair, Treasurer, trustee, sorting of books and identifying those that are valuable, helping with the book sale, and sharing her good ideas.

**Thank you** to Lisa Taylor for her help with the display in the library, trustee, advertising, working on the book sale, sharing her good ideas.

Nancy Davy shared her thanks with all of us for the wonderful way in which we have made our library an important part of the community and our lives.

Becky Gagnon also thanked us because what we do helps the staff of the library as well.

Our next meeting is January 17, 2024, time to be announced.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Nancy Tucker