

Friends Meeting 11/5/2024

Meeting opened at 6:30 by Beth Plas, President. Secretary and Treasurer were not in attendance. 8 members were in attendance.

Membership Report: None provided.

Minutes from October were not provided because the meeting was a Tea Blending Event.

Correspondence – we received a Thank you from the Library employees for Friends support over the years.

Treasurer Report: No report submitted

Book Sale Report

Dates for the Fall Book Sale are 11/1 and 11/2 and 11/3 for setup and 11/4-11/9 sale dates.

Rita Thompson reported the first two days of the book sale went well. We have fewer books than past sales due to restrictions on donations. There was discussion regarding the issue that these sales are big fundraisers and we have no resolution on donation storage space.

Committee feels we need more yard signs and more local advertising, as well as library signage.

The Fall Raffle sales are strong; the winner will be pulled on 11/9.

The May book sale will be: May 5 – May 10 with the possibility of moving the Friends preview to the Saturday prior, May 3. The Community Room has been reserved from May 1 (after 3pm) through May 10.

Director Report

Adele was not in attendance.

Trustee Report

No Trustees were in attendance.

Old Business

The office of Vice President remains open since Kathy Hyle has stepped down.

The GMPL Express trip to the James A Garfield home was a great success. Members and non-members enjoyed the outing sponsored by the Friends in conjunction with the 216 Party Bus (Scot Kuhns).

The October business meeting was cancelled. Amber Pompeii from Cleveland Tea Revival presented a program on tea blending and the Friends offered tea and desserts to coincide with our 40th anniversary.

Business

Membership price increase effective 1/1/2025:

Seniors \$10

Individual \$20

Family \$30

Golden (Lifetime) \$150

Further definition of Golden benefits to be discussed at next meeting.

Members renewing or joining from October 2024 through the end of the year will get the old prices:

Seniors \$5

Individual \$10

Family \$25

Golden (Lifetime) \$150

General discussing regarding the possibility of a new library. The Demby property by the church is still under review; however, it is larger than the library needs. In addition, the property on the school site is still being considered. Someone raised the issue of the library then becoming an afterschool babysitting site as happened in a nearby community, resulting in hiring security officers.

Addition discussion referred to recent social media where community response was very negative the need for a larger facility. Educating the community will be key - additional community forums/library tours of present facility and communication of plans/needs will be critical. We would love for the Trustees to join us at our monthly meetings.

GMPL Express trip suggestions included a return to Stan Hywet. Unfortunately, since the library is not partnering in our outings, cost is prohibitive when we have to pay for the transportation and entrance tickets. Discussion regarding participants paying their own entrance fees.

We will follow up with the Maltz Museum for visit possibly in April if they offer free admission.

Linda Dull will inquire about possible tours of Playhouse Square theatre tours.

Nutrition program (Feb 5 through Mar 12 6:30-8:00 at Historic Grafton School) with Stacey Stangel from Central State. She will offer food demonstrations at each session (which will be consumed by attendees). Registration to be determined. Donations will be accepted.

Old Fashioned Christmas

Rita Thompson and Sharon O'Neill will man the Friends' table for OFC on 12/6. They will sell tickets for our Friends Raffle and promote membership. The Christmas raffle will hopefully be offered from mid-November through mid-December.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, December 3 at 6:30pm in the Community Room

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Jalowiec, Secretary