

## Brown Public Library Board of Trustees

### Minutes - 8/20/19

Present: Maryann Beaupre [President/Chair], John Stevens (Treasurer), Tossy Garrett (Secretary taking minutes), Larry Garland (MAL), Gail Hall (MAL), Kelli Sutton-Bosley (MAL) Sherri Brickey [Director], Margaret England (for Friends of the Library). Absent: Cyndy Bushey (Vice President)

**5:00- Meeting called to order by Maryann.**

**5:00- Approval of Agenda**

**5:01- Approval of Previous minutes.** John moved to approve the July minutes, Tossy seconded; voted & approved.

**5:02- Treasurer's report.** We started a new fiscal year, and received two checks from the town in July. We still haven't heard from the Lance Foundation about the RIF funding, which is very late. We have 3 paychecks due this month, plus some insurance bills coming up, but overall finances look good. Hopefully we will make money on the bookstore over Labor day. Tossy moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Gail seconded; voted and approved.

**5:08- Librarian's Report.** It was a very busy month for both patron visits and item checkouts. Our part-time worker Muriel Dunn has moved on to college, we'll miss her! We also lost one volunteer but signed two others on. We have cut off donations for the book sale as we have run out of room to store the books. The youth department was also busy with storytimes and events. The summer reading program ended successfully.

**5:15- Old Business:**

1. **Pigeons:** They are in control over the door now, but they or other birds seem to have started using the gazebo. We will wash and hose down the floor before storytimes, and that should be OK unless it gets worse since it is not on the seats. John thought about putting up mosquito netting, Tossy thought that would require continual repair from the heavy kids' use. We will revisit as needed.
2. **Labor Day Events Raffle & Sign-up sheet:** Signups are now full. We've sold \$160 worth of tickets for the raffle. Sherri is thinking about setting up a table at the Night on the Common next Tuesday with the raffle items to sell tickets. Larry is willing to set up, but we still need people at the table. We will figure the details out over email.
3. **Budget Committee:** Budget committee met and came up with a budget for next year, which asks the town for an additional \$2,000 for next year. Gail asked if we have any insurance rates or other expenses that are increasing this year. It will depend on what plan Sherri chooses, but John thinks we will have enough even if we do have a small increase. We will approve the budget next month.

**5:23- New Business:**

1. **Margaret England from the Friends of the BPL:** Margaret has sent an email asking Friends to renew their memberships. She has an alphabetical list of the current Friends (35-ish). She increased the membership rate from \$10 to \$15 this last year, and also consolidated the categories to make things easier. She has revamped the way the list is organized to keep track of which 'Friends' are current in their membership, and also to keep mailing costs down. The Frederick Douglass reading event got a fair amount of participation and attention, and the

Friends will continue to organize that in conjunction with the VT Humanities Council. The next Friend-sponsored event that is coming up is a Sojourner Truth actor on Oct 9<sup>th</sup>. Margaret has also written a request for a grant from Northfield Savings Bank, and is wondering if there are any Library events coming up that we would like the Friends' support with, we will think and let her know. She has been thinking of ways to get more participation in the Friends and also clarify the differences between donations to the Library and to the Friends. Margaret is also thinking of moving on from her position as the driving force of the Friends over the next year or two, so the organization will need others to step up to fill roles within the organization, primarily someone in charge of recruiting new members.

2. **Reading Circle Request:** A town reading circle has requested that the Library share their cost of the Sojourner Truth event. Kelli motioned to donate \$25 to the Sojourner Truth event, John seconded; voted & moved.
3. **Trans-Video:** Trans-Video has said in a phone call to John that they no longer want to supply us with internet, although it is unclear if or when this change is going to happen. We will need to be prepared with an alternative plan. We have received internet and wifi from them at no cost up until this point. Kelli is wondering if we could find a sponsor for our internet (in exchange for signs giving them some publicity), and Gail wondered why we are not connected to the town's internet. We don't know what the town uses. John will check with the town, then Norwich (maybe the Norwich Library?) to ask about their situation and possibilities. Maryann will call TDS.
4. **Other Business-** none

**5:35- Public Comment:** no public present

**5:35- Executive Session:** none

**5:55-** Gail moved to adjourn the meeting, Larry seconded; voted & moved.