

# **The Friends of the North Hampton Public Library**

Wednesday, July 19, 2017

North Hampton Public Library

President Cynthia Swank called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. In attendance were Jane Boesch, Donna Etela, Vicki Jones, Hope Miller, Nancy Monaghan, Lisa Peck and Jane Robie. Also attending was Board of Trustees Chair Judy Day and Librarian Susan Grant.

The treasurer's report was approved unanimously, as were the minutes of the June 21, 2017 meeting.

## **Craig Room Makeover**

Judy Day reported her plumber and electrician had been in to work on the floor outlet left as a trip hazard by Mr. Portrie. The outlet is almost flush with the floor now, but not quite.. There was discussion about why we just can't take the outlet out. Larry Miller will ask the electrician why that can't happen, and if need be, he will go see Mr. Portrie about repairing that section of the floor. Susan Grant reported the cabinet maker had been in this week, and she said it will be finished by the end of the month

Ms. Grant also reported that the ceiling/insulation/lighting work is expected to take 10 days, and the contractor wants the library to be closed while the work is in progress. She said she doesn't know the timetable about when this is to happen.

## **Recruitment of New Members**

Ms. Swank brought the Library's new members packet to the meeting, ad it includes a brochure, a magnet, some book marks and a Friends brochure. A lengthy discussion ensued about whether we should/could include any number of brochures from other nonprofits along with town information that may be of interested to newcomers. Everyone noted that the signage for the Town complex is woefully insufficient for anyone not familiar with the buildings. Ms. Day said she will talk to Paul Apple about it. Vicki Jones will ask other groups for brochures that we could include in the packet.

## **Recruitment/Networking**

The idea of a coffee for Library volunteers, suggested at the last meeting, was discussed and finalized. It was decided such an event will be held September 27 at 9:30 a.m. Ms. Grant will send emails to the Library list, Lisa Peck will take care of getting the coffee, Jane Boesch will do refreshments, and Jane Robie will help whoever needs help. The purpose of the gathering is to find out what people's interests are and how the Library can help, basically a low key talk with people who love the Library may want to join The Friends.

## **Community Newsletter**

Ms. Swank reported the Select Board has agreed to pay to mail the newsletter three times a year. Ms. Grant said the next edition is scheduled to come out in October, with a mid-September deadline. Nancy Monaghan suggested it's a good time to perhaps upgrade the content. She noted the earlier discussion of the new members' packet for the Library that

had generated dozens of ideas for how-to information, and she said the Community Newsletter is a perfect venue for such a list. She volunteered to put together a proposed list as well as ideas for how the newsletter can be organized a bit more, specifically the front page. There was discussion about whether to advise the Town as a courtesy of any editorial changes and explore whether the Town would like to assume editorial control. Both Mrs. Etela and Ms. Day said there had been some concern in the past about the editorial direction of the newsletter. Ms. Monaghan volunteered to speak with Paul Apple about both issues.

### **Library Foundation**

Ms. Swank said she had attended the last Trustees meeting and had supplied to the Trustees the blurbs she had written up describing the functions of the Library, The Friends, and the Trustees. Ms. Day reported the Trustees had just received a draft Memorandum of Understanding from the Foundation. She said there are many questions about this document and that she will be seeking legal counsel on its contents.

### **Account for Funds**

Lisa Peck reported she had looked into CD rates for The Friends and that it's not really worth it. The best rate is less than half a percent.

### **Annual Appeal**

Hope Miller suggested the appeal go out in September or October. She said the local residents who winter in Florida are still around then, and it's the only way they would receive the brochure since bulk mail is not forwarded. Mrs. Etela reiterated what she said last year, that the appeal really needs to be out no later than November for people seeking to do some year-end giving for tax purposes. Ms. Swank asked everyone to take a look at the last brochure and report any suggested changes.

### **Library Events**

Ms. Grant said she is working on an exhibit for October and would like help from anyone who has a knack for same. She is doing a display to show the past, present and future of the Library. Ms. Swank said there are many photographs in The Friends' scrapbooks in the New Hampshire room cabinets. Ms. Grant also reported she is working on a program on laughter for August 10, and for September, she is collaborating with the Historical Society on a program about Benedict Arnold at Town Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38. **The next meeting is Wednesday, August 16 at 9:15 a.m. at the Library.**

**Minutes prepared 7/24/17**

**By Nancy Monaghan**