

**Library Friends of Cook County Board of Directors Meeting
August 13, 2018 at Grand Marais Public Library (GMPL)**

Present: Mary Beams, Jack Miller, Dennis Kaleta, Jan Smith, Agatha Armstrong, Mike Schelmeske, Lorrie Oswald, and Duane Hasegawa. Absent: None
GMPL representative: Steve Harsin

Mary Beams called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm. The meeting agenda was reviewed, Jack Miller moved to approve the agenda with a second of the motion by Jan Smith. Ayes all.

The July 9, 2018 meeting minutes were reviewed. Lorrie Oswald moved to approve with corrections and Mike Schelmeske seconded the motion. Ayes all.

The treasurer's report for July and the first 12 days of August were reviewed. Jack Miller moved to approve and Jan Smith seconded the motion. Ayes all.

OLD BUSINESS

Book Sale. With the end of the annual book sale event, a new flyer to publicize our future plans will be needed. We discussed the need to increase new membership and retain current members. We discussed the need to recruit new board members. We discussed a need for a newsletter to communicate with our members and describe our activities. We felt that the creation of a task force to address these issues would be necessary. The group will include current board members and members who helped with our book sale. The group ideally should include representatives from the libraries awarded grants in the past. The task force's goal is to identify fund raising activities and their relationship to future membership renewal. Once the group has suggestions, a marketing plan would be necessary to achieve the goals.

Sales report. Lorrie reviewed our book sales data and membership renewals. Duane estimated that we sold nearly 300 boxes of books and DVDs. We discarded about 50% less unsold books thanks to Jack Miller's skills in book sorting. There were suggestions made by used book buyers regarding storage sites, and many wished the annual book sales event could continue.

Post book sales chores included disposing of items used for our book sales, recycling boxes, and finding a home for materials too valuable to throw away. Diane Booth was interested in purchasing four of the wooden bookshelves. The Community Center will purchase our hand truck which we can use in the future as needed. The Community Center will also hold onto the sandwich boards which the community can use for various events. Members of the board plan to meet on August 14th to take care of the materials left over at City Hall and the Community Center.

NEW BUSINESS

Mary Beams announced that Mike Schelmeske received the Standout Friend award from the Minnesota Association of Library Friends. The good news will be publicly announced shortly. The Board thanked Mike for his many years of helping Library Friends of Cook County. We will miss him as he plans to resign this year.

The Grants committee (Mary Beams, Jan Smith, Lorrie Oswald, and Agatha Armstrong) will meet on August 21, 2018 to review each of the libraries' applications. The other Board members all gave their votes of approval for the committee's recommendations.

We reviewed our 2018 operating budget and felt that Library Friends may need additional amount of money in our checking account to cover marketing and publication expenses. Dennis moved to add \$500 to our 2018 operational budget. Agatha Armstrong seconded the motion. Ayes all.

Lorrie Oswald has worked on changing our email account to Google. Our new email address is: Library.Friends.CC.MN@gmail.com. Lorrie will send Board members the new password.

Agatha Armstrong will compose a letter for the grant recipients inviting them to an awards potluck luncheon. This will take place at noon on Saturday September 15, 2018 at the Cook County Community Center. We plan to present the grant awards and ask the recipients for their ideas on how Library Friends can financially support our libraries in the future.

We agreed to hold our annual fall membership meeting as usual with the exact date to be determined by the task force's recommendations.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be on Monday September 17, 2018 at Grand Marais Public Library at 5:30 pm.

There were no additional business items, and Jack Miller moved to adjourn. Mike Schelmeske seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane Hasegawa, Secretary