

AGENDA

1. Approve minutes of January 9, 2023, attached
2. Approve Treasurer's Report including donations received
3. Fund Raising Reports
 - a. Otto's
 - b. Charitable Gaming
 - c. Other
4. Library Events
 - a. Lit Festival
 - b. Crafts Fair
5. Cribbage
6. Library Needs
7. Old Business
8. New Business
9. Next meeting February 13, 2024 at 6:30

Friends of the Exeter Public Library meeting minutes

Meeting held January 9th, 6:30 pm in the children's craft room of the library

In attendance: Hope Godino, Barbara Young, Heike Titus, Monique Lowd, Susan Feltus, Evelyn Kelso, Martha Walsh, Sarah James

1. Prior minutes: The minutes from the last meeting, held November 11th, 2023, were approved.
2. Treasurer's report: See below
3. Update on charitable gaming: No report was available. Sarah will contact Hilary, who was working on this with Roy, to see if there are any updates.
4. Report on Festival of Trees: Our tree themed to "Banned and Challenged Books" was a great success! 5 of our members had fun setting up the tree, which had lots of decorations and "extras". The tree got a lot of "buzz", with many people overheard discussing its theme as they circulated through Town Hall. The tree's selling price of \$600 contributed to the Festival raising over \$54,000 this year - all of which goes towards providing warm clothes, shoes and bedding to needy area children. We received a nice thank you note from the tree committee. Thank you to all our donors and volunteers!
5. Donations received: Over the past few months our group has received several monetary donations (see treasurer's report below). Susan will contact Courtney to see if she has sent out thank you notes, and if not she will be sure these get done.
6. Upcoming fundraisers: Hilary has been in touch with Otto's Pizza to sign us up for a fundraising date in the late spring. On that date, always a Monday, our group will receive a percentage of the restaurant's proceeds. We will be responsible for publicity, but will not be running a raffle or other activities at the restaurant that night. Sarah will check with Hilary on the exact date.
The date for the librarian's spring craft fair has not yet been set; possibly shortly before Mother's Day. We anticipate helping out with this by running a raffle of items donated by the crafters. as we have done in the past.

7. Mahjong event: The library has several mahjong groups that meet regularly. One of the mahjong players reached out to us saying that he hopes to schedule a day long mahjong event over the summer. The goal would be to introduce more people to the game and also to collect donations for the St Vincent de Paul food pantry. He is working out the details with the library. Martha will contact him and let him know that our group would not be involved in scheduling this, as it should be done through the library. Of course, as the time gets closer we can publicize the event to our membership and ask if anyone wants to participate and/or volunteer to help.

8. Cribbage: The group is going strong. Next meeting is coming up on Saturday, January 13th.

9. Library needs: We approved several requests for funding from Hope:

- \$500 for a performer at an "all ages" program organized through the children's room staff in February, possibly a magician

- \$1,000 for a live band (hopefully a local group) that will perform at the Exeter Lit Fest kick off event at the library on the evening of Friday, April 5th. This event will be free for everyone and will feature several decorated areas within the library, each with its own food and non-alcoholic drinks themed to a literary genre.

- Hope is investigating bringing in an author (again hopefully local) to give a talk geared towards adult patrons later this year. She will present details at a future meeting.

10. New business: Hope asked if our group would like to take charge of decorating one of the themed areas at the Lit Fest kick off on April 5th (see above). The available themes are Sci-Fi, Fantasy and Romance. We discussed this but do not feel that we have enough volunteers to commit to decorating one whole library area at this time. Please respond to this email if this is a project you would like to take on! There will certainly be many smaller volunteer opportunities available that night as well, including helping with decorating and staffing the event.

One of our members, Ute Tellin, will be giving a series of talks on the history of architecture, painting and sculpture on Tuesday mornings at the library this spring. her first talk, "Architecture - from the ancients to the beginning of the 19th century" is scheduled from 10 to 11 am on Tuesday, January 16th. Ute is a retired professor with extensive knowledge in these subjects. Her goal is to share her knowledge in an enjoyable, accessible way. No registration necessary. See the library website for details!

11. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

12. The next meeting will be Tuesday February 13 starting at 6:30 pm

Friends of the Exeter Public Library Financial Report, prepared by treasurer Roy Tellini

November, 2023

Opening balance as of November 1, 2023 \$4458.52

Receipts: \$50 from the Hirshberg Family Foundation

Expenses: \$40 for supplies for the Festival of Trees

Ending balance as of November, 30, 2023: \$4,468.52

December, 2023

Opening balance as of December 1, 2023 \$4468.52
Receipts: \$100 from Don and MaryJo Briselden
\$1000 from Walter Payne and Ninfa Young
\$300 from Curtis LIntveldt
Expenses: none
Ending balance as of December, 30, 2023: \$5868.52

Outstanding expenses: \$50 check written to the NH gaming commission, only to be cashed if we are selected as a recipient of charitable gaming monies