

Friends of the Oak Park Public Library
Executive Board Meeting
November 20 , 2023
Minutes

Present: Russ Glidden (President), Chet Taranowski, Joslyn Bowling Dixon (Library Director), Beth Streit, Lori Pulliam(Deputy Director) , Jennie Stevens , Nancy Hartman

Present on Zoom: Kat Bell and Denise Roser

Call to Order: Russ called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Review of September 18, 2023 meeting minutes: The minutes were reviewed. Jennie moved and Chet seconded to approve. All agreed to approve.

Treasurer's Report: Russ reported that we received a \$200 check in honor of Anne Koereber from the Third Unitarian Church in Chicago which he gave to Denise to deposit. Denise reported that as of the October bank statement we have \$42,597 in the FOPPL operating account and \$40,709 in the money market savings account. FOPPL wrote a \$14,000 check to the library which has not yet been cashed. Nancy moved and Jennie seconded accepting the Treasurer's Report. All approved.

Library Board Report: Lori Pulliam reported that she will be retiring on December 22nd, after 21 years of service to the library. Joslyn remarked that all the library staff will miss her. The FOPPL board will miss her too!

Joslyn reported that library staff just completed interviews to replace Lori. The candidates have been narrowed to four. The new staff member will start before Lori leaves so that Lori can help in their transition.

Starting November 27, 2023, the library will have a pop-up shop selling t-shirts, hats, scarves, totes, mugs, onesies, sweatshirts and other merchandise. Samples were passed around. The library is in deficit spending. The library's chiller is broken. While the library has a \$2 million reserve, it is dipping into it. The pop-up shop will help. The goal is to make \$100,000.

Membership Report: Chet presented Stuart Greene's application for a board of directors' position. Stu was the liaison for Better Worlds Books for the book fair this year and did an excellent job. Russ appointed Stu to fill out the remainder of the position of Doris Adamczewski which runs until March of 2025.

Folk Series: Nancy Clark has a couple of people lined up for concerts in the coming months.

Film Series: There was a six-film series this fall. Russ attended four of them.

Fall Social Event: The Board thanked Jennie and Kat for an excellent, well-attended fall social event. There was a discussion of having such events twice a year. Another social event will be planned for March. Jennie and Beth will work on it.

Miscellaneous: A discussion was held about what to do with FOPPL's painting of a seedling. Russ asked the Board to send suggestions to him. Joclyn asked if we could bring it to the next meeting.

Russ reported on the Newberry Library's decision to end its book fair and said that we will reach out to its volunteers to invite them to work on our book fair.

Chet asked about the email that will go out to our members and volunteers to renew their annual memberships. Kat said it will go out in the next couple of weeks.

Jennie put all the old board minutes on a thumb drive.

Chet asked about the form we need to fill out to continue FOPPL's 503(c) tax exempt status. The notification usually goes to the library and library staff gives it to us. Lori said that staff will look out for it - it usually comes from the library's lawyer.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:46pm

The next scheduled meeting will be on Monday January 15, 2024 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Streit