

## **FOPPL October 21, 2024 Board Meeting**

**Present In Person:** Kathleen Bell, Eric Bryning, Diane Cranford, Russ Glidden, Jennie Stevens, Suzy Wulf, Carrie Summy, Director of External Affairs for the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation. Leila Massouh, Nancy Clark, Stuart Greene, Beth Streit and Nancy Hartman

**Present on Zoom:** Chet Taranowski

**Member:** Robert Becker

**Call to Order:** Russ called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**Report from Carrie Summy:** Carrie gave a brief history of the Oak Park River Forest Community Foundation and its relationship with the Friends. It was established in 1958 as a trust and became a 501(c)(3) charitable organization in 1998, Its mission is to unite community members and mobilized resources to advance a racially just society. It invests and stewards funds of community members for specific charitable purposes. In 2006, the Friends had a CD that was about to expire and approached the Foundation to discuss options for an endowment. On May 1, 2007 Chet Taranowski and the Foundation's Executive Director Theresa Amato signed an agreement establishing an agency endowment fund for the Friends with an approximate initial gift of \$52,000 ("the Agreement."). The current balance of the fund is \$134,342.79. The Foundation's Board sets a spend rate each year and applies that rate, currently 4.5%, to the funds 'average balance over the prior 12 quarters. This year the Foundation distributed \$5,502.42 directly to the Library.

The fund was set up to benefit the Friends. Carrie stated that the Foundation suggests that the Agreement be clarified by addendum or restatement to clearly explain the mission and role of the Friends, define the charitable purpose as providing annual support to the library and identify who shall be the main point of contact for the fund (by title and/or position.)

Beth suggested that this be done by addendum as restating the Agreement could lead to more confusion. Nancy H suggested that the Treasurer's report include the Foundation's annual distributions in the future.

Russ proposed that Kat be designated as the liaison to work with Carrie and get Board input into what changes should be made to the Agreement. Jennie moved and Stu seconded the motion and all voted in favor of Kat taking on that role.

**August 2024 Minutes:** Jennie moved to accept the minutes, Diane seconded the motion and all approved.

**Treasurer Report:** Leila reported on the results of the Book Fair. Gross revenue was \$32,800.50. Operating expenses were \$4469.84, communication expenses were \$2038.40 and Square cost \$658, leaving a net revenue of \$25,634.26.

**Library Board Report:** Suzy reported that the Executive Director position has been posted. The Board has hired a national search firm and will be seeking community and staff input. She also reported on several initiatives funded by the Friends- the Chicago Football Classic and pop up library were funded by the Friends. We also again funded the Barbara Ballinger Lecture. This years' lecture is by Lee Bey, architecture critic for the Sun Times, who will speak on November 2.

## **Reports:**

**Membership:** Chet and Nancy H met to discuss pricing structure and increasing the benefits of membership. They suggested a 3-level membership with increasing perks. After some discussion, Jenny and Eric joined the committee who will meet again and report back to the Board.

**Folk Music Series:** Nancy had to leave so Russ gave her report. The next concert will be by Dennis Warner on November 6. Nancy has 6 concerts planned – 3 between January and May and 3 between September and mid-November.

**Review: Volunteer Pizza Party on August 1** The party went well and was well attended. The horse shoe configuration of the table was conducive to conversation. Attendees liked that 4 people won awards. Jenny suggested that we buy paper good in bulk to save money next year.

**Perpetual plaque** We will add Doug Deuchler and Doris Adamczewski to the plaque. Eric knows someone who can do engraving and will have their names engraved on the plaque.

**Fall 2024 social event: Eric Bryning & Diane Cranford** the fall event will be library and book trivia. Members and Book Fair volunteers will be invited. It will take place on November 21 at 7 pm in the Community Center.

## **2025 Book Fair Projects**

**Source for boxes** Jennie will look for a cheaper source

**Signage** We would like to improve the signage at the Fair. Eric and Russ will work on this.

**Written and/or posted rules of book sale etiquette** this will include rules for professional book buyers. Beth, Diane, Jenny and Stu will be on this committee.

**Set schedule of 2025 meetings:** Next year's meetings will be on **Jan 27, March 10, May 19, June 16, Aug 18, and Oct 20**

**Board members whose term ends March 2025: Kat, Eric, Stuart, Jennie, Beth, Chet**

Kat, Eric, Jennie, Beth and Chet all indicated that they intended to seek another term.

**Adjournment** Beth moved, Jennie seconded and all approved.

**Next Board Meeting: January 27, 2025**

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Streit