

Annual General Meeting

Friends of the Berkshire Athenaeum

Minutes of the Meeting

September 8, 2016

Fourteen people attended the meeting.

President Amy opened the meeting at 3:07.

There is one open position, that of secretary. Yours truly was nominated and accepted the position.

James Arpante, Nancy McNabb and Marilyn Manning were elected to three-year terms on the Executive Committee.

There is also the position of Membership Committee Chair open.

The treasurer's report was discussed. \$20,000 was left for the auditorium project. The budget was approved.

It was voted to keep the membership fees the same. Two people opposed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45

Executive Committee

Minutes of the Meeting

September 8, 2016

Attendees:

Amy Chin
Vickie Donahue
Art and Sharon Larsen
Ross Shuart
James Arpante
Florian Ptak
Alex Reczkowski
Marilyn Manning
Nancy McNabb
Bob Bresnahan
Jeanne Bresnehan

Three guests

The meeting was called to order at 3:46. The Minutes of June 9th were approved.

The treasurer's report was discussed and approved.

Thank you notes were received from Ron Latham for his retirement gift, Becky Cushing of the Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary for sponsoring a library pass, Nan Pearson for our support of the Summer Reading Program, Head Start for our Support of the "Enhancing Families through Literature" program, co-ordinated with the Berkshire Family and Probate Court, and the Pregnancy Support Program for our donation of 19 baby books.

Membership: Magda Gabor-Hotchkiss renewed as a Lifetime Member.

Programs: Marilyn Manning passed out the Fall schedule of programs. She is experimenting with afternoon sessions.

Book Sale: It was suggested that there be a police presence between 3 and 7 p.m. There was a discussion of the possibility of storing furnace filters somewhere else so as to make more room in the garage for donated books.

Marilyn reported that books have been donated to the following sources:

Berkshire Children and Families, South Congregational Church, Elizabeth Freeman Center, and to the little Bookhouses.

It was decided not to use the Probate Court volunteers until we call them to get a chance to get caught up.

The publicity survey taken at the Book Sale was turned in and Florian will compile a Spreadsheet.

Newsletter: Ross has a new email, which is rossa.shuart@gmail.com He is asking for newsletter inputs by September 15th.

Publicity: RSVP is creating a calendar and will be discussed at the next meeting by James. It was suggested that we hand out bookmarks for more publicity. James suggested that we have a "Friends" press release to generate good will.

Director's Report: Alex announced that the new library hours will be Monday through Thursday from 9 to 9.

Ann Marie Leone retired Aug. 11. Interviews for the position have been completed.

Old Business: Tabled

New Business: The Wish List was approved except for items 2, 4, 17 & 18. Item 20, a water bottle filler was added.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 13th at 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Bresnehan