

Friends of the Berkshire Athenaeum
Executive Committee Meeting
June 14, 2018

Attendees:

James Arpante
Bob Bresnahan
Jeanne Bresnehan
Amy Chin
Vickie Donahue
Art and Sharon Larsen
Nancy McNabb
Alex Reczkowski
Ed Reilly
Russ Shuart

Amy opened the meeting at 3 p.m. The minutes of May 10th were approved.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. Bob Bresnahan commented that the book bike comprised a lot of the wish list. Also, it was decided not to purchase the passes from the Franklin Zoo near Boston.

President's Report:

Luciano Silva has left on June 1st to return to school to pursue a software engineering degree. Staff has been filling in until he can be replaced.

There are many things going on at the Library. Along with the seed library progressing, there will be a "Hike in the Wilderness Program" on Saturday. There were 80 people present at the Berkshire Hills Chorus program last week. "Tuesdays on the Terrace" will present Mandy Greenfield of Williamstown Theatre Festival on Tuesday the 19th. In July, at 6 pm on the Terrace, the Masthead Project (writers in residence) will take place.

Hanging baskets of flowers around the library have been donated.

The rebranding process is underway. A library consultant will be making a survey to determine our direction.

Library Night at the Ball Game will take place on June 28th at 6:30 at Wahconah Park. Sam, our children's librarian and Alex Geller will work on book giveaway.

Membership:

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There were 20 renewals and 2 new memberships for May.

Book Sale:

- Nancy reported that there are two new volunteers. Many beautiful coffee-table style books have been received from Blantyre. Bob Cancilla and Bernie Scapin will be book sale treasurers.

Programs:

- Marilyn reported that the 2017 – 2018 season is over, and all went well. The Berkshire Hills Chorus was a strong finish.

Newsletter:

Ross has completed the first draft. The Book Sale ad will be included in the next issue.

Publicity:

- Up Country will come out July 1st. There will be a book sale ad in The Eagle 10 days preceding the Book Sale, and also in a small box on the front page. There is a booklet that comes out in July titled, "Things to do in Berkshire County." James noted that the dates are wrong in the Summer Preview publication.

Library Store:

- We are in the process of ordering 150 book bags to be sold at the booksale. Our tee shirt stock will be sold at cost for \$5 apiece.

New Business:

The meeting schedule for fiscal 2018/2019 was distributed.

The Planning Committee for the Friends of Libraries (Oct. 14-20) will meet the third week of July. The Larsen's and Marilyn will help with this.

Amy thanked Sharon and Art, whose term on the board is up, for their service to the Library. The board was asked to think about potential board members and submit names at the September meeting. They will be on the slate for nomination at the October General Meeting.

Old Business:

After much discussion and problems with getting the interested parties together, the Junior Membership program has been tabled.

The fiscal budget for 2018-2019 was approved. It was decided to extend the special projects line item to \$30,000.

Vickie mentioned that the Springfield newspaper was initiating a new section for activities in Berkshire County.

The meeting closed at 4:30.

The next meeting will be September 13, 2018 at 3 p.m. The date of the Annual Meeting is to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Bresnehan