

Friends of Robert Trail Library
Minutes for May 14, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

John presented our Treasurer's report showing that after \$1277 in expenses we have a current balance of \$11, 902.

Under Old Business, Jo shared the following:

Book sale

- Book sale recap notes based on our discussion at the Fireside dinner. Most frequent comments included how well-organized it was, teachers were glad to be included in Preview Night, book selection was excellent, having the library storage closet completely empty was a great help, community signs that "poke" into the ground were much easier to use than the realtor signs we've used in the past.
- Among the items needing improvement were: switch the fiction and nonfiction areas around so we can make better use of the wall for signage, create a half-sheet flyer to distribute for the Bag Sale which can be handed out at checkout or given to another location (RHS Band Garage Sale), replace damaged or worn Home Depot boxes and look into boxes that are not so heavy when full, design a better pipe - sign system, maybe using paint sticks.
- John is currently tracking the number of boxes at the time of sorting so we'll know approximately how much space to plan for next year.
- We decided not to take any books from Lakeville for the coming year. Jo will notify them so they can plan.

Artist reception - May with Diamond Path - this event was not as well attended as others have been, possibly due to poor publicity within the school. This was the last one for the year.

One Book One Rosemount - Our evening with the author of *Turn Left at the Cow* will be October 24. The Friends will pay for 100 books to be distributed to the community through the library. We are waiting to hear about possible programming ideas from library staff.

Hand bell event - no update at this time.

New Business

- Country Faire - Sept 15, 9-4 pm - we will not be sponsoring an ice cream social going forward since this year was a special make-up event from June. We will have plenty of volunteers to help set up this time, but the Friends are asked to help with the children's craft table (see volunteer notice coming soon).
- Ice Cream Social - This year it's on Wednesday, June 6 from 3-5 pm. Set up will begin at 2:15 on the Library lawn. Sue and Karyl will be in charge of ordering and supplies. Jo will check to see if we need to replace any signage.
- Leprechaun Days - it was decided we would go ahead and be part of the parade again this year. We discovered that so many people were accustomed to getting their "Free Book" coupon through the parade that we should try to get more volunteers to help out. More coupons will be ordered to add to what we had left over.
- Writers Contest - As part of ArtBlast, June 19-24, we will co-sponsor a writing contest open to all ages. Teachers are being sent the information in order to get more kids involved. Information is posted at the library and also the RAAC website. The Friends will donate up to \$200 for prizes.

Other

- We will not be replacing the ottomans in the future.
- Silver Tea refreshments will be covered by library funds, but the Friends will defray the cost of serving materials.
- Jo asked for new ideas to be included in future newsletters. Even though we have ample distribution, we throw out way too many. Perhaps this is due to the fact that we email a great deal of them. We'll discuss it again next month.
- John mentioned that The Loft is looking to expand outside of downtown Minneapolis and is interested in partnering with us on a kids summer writing camp in 2019. They would also like to add an adult writers class.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Gilbertson