**Foundation and Friends of North Riverside Public Library**

**April 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

President Spale called the meeting to order at 6:37

**Roll Call -** via Zoom: Lenora Giurini, Nadia Nammari

In person: Stephanie Lanken, John Mathias, Denise Miska, Kathleen Spale, Natalie Starosta, Pat Trinco, and Vera Wilt

Also present: Carlene O'Brien

Minutes had been distributed via email. Stephanie moved the approval, seconded by Denise, motion carried.

**Library Board** - in the absence of Annette, John reported there is budget work going on as well as discussions of Youth Services.

**Library** - Natalie reported that they are working hard on the Summer Reading Program which kicks off on June 3rd. There is outreach to all businesses in the village which will hopefully bring many sponsors.

**Treasurer's Report** - Vera reported income of only $10 from Facebook. Kay's Room money was not yet deposited. Expenses Paid were $45 in reimbursement to Annette for the Senior Fair table, and $643.50 for the Circulation Desk tote bags. Closing Balance is $44,080.26. We had some fraudulent activity using a debit card that the bank says was issued to Vera in 2019, but she never received. There was a series of small charges as if to test the validity of the card, all in one day. The bank said there were no previous charges. The card was terminated and Vera disputed the charges. The bank will issue her a new card and will investigate the charges and credit our account if they find it was fraud. John moved to accept the report, seconded by Stephanie and motion carried.

**Name Change** Facebook Update - no word yet

**Bank and CDs** - we talked about some of the rates we have seen at area banks for CDs including West Town Savings Bank, 5/3 Bank. The rates for various terms are as high as 4.5% to 5.6%, even with low minimum deposits. Nadia will check on current 5/3 rates, whether they apply to money already with them and not just new money, and whether there are any special rules for non-profits. In most cases, we will need to show at least minutes showing the approval of the investment, and in some cases might need a board resolution and probably a mention that any earnings will be used according to our bylaws. Vera will check for rates in the area. We will probably want to ladder with smaller CDs with different maturity dates not to unduly tie up our money.

**Egger Book** - A letter was sent to the family to ask about a preferred title or topic for a book in Mark's honor.

**Kay's Sale Room -** Carlene spoke about the baskets we had for sale in the room, but none of them sold. Although they were beautiful, she said they were probably too expensive for our community. After discussion, Vera moved we remove the Noah's Ark stuffed animal from the one basket, remove the price tags, and put up a sign with some language like "the Easter Bunny left some undelivered baskets, so if you like one, place a free will donation in the lock box and enjoy the goodies" Motion seconded by Stephanie, and carried. Natalie will remove price tags and make and post a sign.

Carlene has retired recently, and Joan Kohnke is a library volunteer looking out for Kay's room.

**Name Tags** - The Foundation board members prefer to only use first names on the name tags, so Natalie will order the tags and let us know the cost, for payment.

**Board Shirts** - Nadia reported she was about to order and could not get through to the vendor by phone or email. She was concerned about whether the business has closed, but could not confirm because she is out of town. Vera volunteered to go by the shop to see what's going on, since it is near her office. (Vera checked the day after the meeting, and all is well)

**Senior Fair Table and Flyer** - The event is on Thursday, May 11th from 10 to noon, John and Annette will staff the table, and hand out flyers. It was suggested they wear some of our merchandise and have information about items we sell.

**Celebration Dinner** - Natalie reported 25 people will attend on Tuesday, April 25th from 5 to 8 at Village Pub. !! people could not attend.

**ALA Event** - There was a reminder that anyone wishing to attend the event for Foundation participants should register through the link Natalie will send, and then once you pay, the Foundation and Friends will reimburse your registration.

**Leaf** - on the Donor Tree - John explained that since his old employer, ITW is continuing its ongoing support of organizations for which their employees volunteer, he wants the leaves honoring their support to have something more interesting than just repeatedly using the corporate name. He will have an ongoing theme on them that says: "Our Library is a place..." and each will have a different phrase telling a story, such as: "...to make friends" which will be on the current leaf. Others who make multiple donations could do something similar.

**Seasonal Logo** - When we get our own website, it was suggested we could have seasonal symbols superimposed on our logo to keep it interesting. This would be similar to Google and how they add Holiday symbols etc.

**Purchase Requests** - 1) The canvas tote bags for circulation have been received and reimbursed. We saw a sample.

2) For the summer reading program, they would like to purchase some seating that looks like tree stumps that come in sets of 3. After some discussion of how many the staff would like to have, There was a motion by Denise, seconded by Pat to buy 3 sets of 3 for approximately $420, motion carried. Natalie will try to find a better deal on them.

3) another wish list item is the digitization of the microfilms of the publication called the North Riverside Star. It was a weekly publication and we seem to have the most comprehensive collection of issues dated from 1926 to 1962. What we have on microfilm, with no reader. If we have them digitized they would be searchable PDFs and would be a great resource for local history in this centennial year and beyond. Natalie is looking into what kind of price can be negotiated, because this is usually for a minimum number of records, and we are under that minimum. There is a potential grant to apply for from the IMLS (Institute of Museum and Library Services).

**2023 Fundraisers**

- Easter Baskets - already discussed

- Author events - Another area author we did not list before is Elizabeth Berg. We have not yet reached out to any of the authors previously discussed. Natalie will be meeting with Colleen, the Rec Director next month regarding events and programs. We can coordinate with village events.

Other libraries have raised funds with auctions for items like Taylor Swift concerts. Maybe we could get some special prizes and have a silent auction during this year's Winterfest/tree lighting day.

Carleen told us how when she moved into town, there was no library. She got involved to change that, and is retiring after 34 years of service. She gave really has wonderful things to say about the value of a library.

No Unfinished Business

There being no further business, John moved to adjourn, seconded by Stephanie, and motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19

Respectfully,

Vera A. Wilt