

## FRIENDS OF THE PAMLICO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

October 21st, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Kathy Baradyn, Bonnie Cap, Rich and Carolyn Bartz, Kat Clowers, Jennie DeStefano, Caitlin Kuhn, Peg Vick

**Bonnie** called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00pm.

The September 16th, 2021 minutes had been emailed to all members and posted on the FOL website. Bonnie asked for any additions or corrections. Since there were none, Peg made a motion to accept the minutes as presented with Rich seconding the motion. The vote was unanimous to accept the minutes.

**Carolyn** presented the **Budget Update**. The FOL currently has approximately \$98,679.01 total in its accounts. The book sale raised \$1,968.98, which is the highest amount raised in recent history, thanks to the book donations and more than 26 volunteers. In addition, the use of PayPal accounted for approximately 8% of sales. Book sales online have garnered \$224.42 and additional volunteers to scan donated books will most likely raise that amount. The food booth at the Ol' Front Porch Musical Festival garnered a total of approximately \$621 due to the donation by Yawl's Café. Thank you notes have been sent to both Marie Inkenbrandt, who prepared the salads, and Mike Fuller, Yawl's Manager.

**Peg** presented the **Membership Report** noting the addition of 4 new members and two donations of \$100.00 each.

Carol McAdoo was unable to attend, so Bonnie presented the **Community and Social Report**. The Children's Trunk or Treat candy will be purchased by Carol, but she requested volunteers to fill the bags for the children. We discussed a way to thank the ROTC students who broke down the book sale in record time. Peg suggested a pizza party. Bonnie will contact Commander Mike Robinson to ask what is appropriate and determine a date for a thank you event. Rich also mentioned the fact that the students could qualify for one of the FOL scholarships since they had assisted in a library function.

**Caitlin** outlined the continuing library programs and discussed the uptick in the number of questions asked of the library staff, (from 100 to 850 per month). Most questions involved some aspect of technology use. Partnering with NC Works to assist with resume and cover sheet preparation, along with working with community members who are on unemployment benefits, is in process. The staff is working at

encouraging more children and students to become involved in library programs. The book/techmobile will be in Hobucken on Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. The Trunk or Treat event is scheduled for October 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am. Caitlin mentioned a Spanish/English Exchange program for November; the first half-hour will be in Spanish, with the second half-hour in English. Fran Benninger is continuing her story times both at the library and at approximately five childcare facilities, along with craft times and participating in Friday Gamer time.

Under **New Business**, we discussed postponing the Armstrong/McGuire interviews until November 9<sup>th</sup> due to a lack of scheduled interviews. We wondered what the hinderance to the interviews was and it was suggested that the 'ask' by FOL members wasn't as productive as anticipated. Peg mentioned that Ben has a pledge form he will give her.

**Rich** felt that there were misconceptions in the community concerning the library and that, while the High School library is small, students don't seem to be using the Public Library. **Caitlin** noted that the library was more heavily used than in pre-Covid times. While the library may be used as a 'holding space' for students to wait for parents to pick them up, Caitlin said that the staff is engaging students, so the time is used well in the library space. Whether some type of transportation would be available for students to travel to the new library was brought up.

**Bonnie** had proposed selecting a plastic crate from Amazon and putting it on the FOL website for members to purchase to make it easier to store donated books. The cost was discussed; more research is needed.

We discussed holding an event in January to thank all the members who have volunteered this past year. Several options were proposed, including the time/day of the week that would work best for most of the members.

Bonnie will call Peggi Carman to order the FOL brochures online.

The slate of officers and Board members needs to be presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting on November 18<sup>th</sup>. The current President, Vice President, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer agreed to continue in their positions. Bonnie will call Dr. Josh Rose, Barry Monk and Lynn Lewis to see if they will continue as Board members. She will purchase wraps for the Board meeting (at 6:00pm) and cookies for general membership meeting to follow (at 7:00pm).

We discussed the use of [amazon.smile.com](https://www.amazon.com/smile) as a method of raising funds without costing members anything. Instructions will be included in the

membership renewal mailing, along with the agenda and budgets for review at the Annual Meeting.

Since some members do not like to travel at night, changing the FOL meeting time to 12:00pm was discussed. In addition, changing the day to Wednesday was also proposed.

Since there were no other concerns or announcements, Bonnie asked for a motion to adjourn. Peg made the motion, seconded by Carolyn, voted 'Yes' unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.