

**FRIENDS OF THE BRADEN RIVER LIBRARY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

February 21, 2024

4915rd Ave. East, Bradenton, FL 34203

1. Mary Frueh called the meeting to order at 6:04

Those attending were: Mary Frueh, Judy Mullen, Gene Rado, Linda Rado, Sue Capparella, Bill Hager, Sharry Lueck, Bernice Jones, Eirinn Camphire, Louise Hauser, Mel Mandelkorn Also attending were Susan Hustwit and Chris Culp, Librarians. Unable to attend was Nadia Gandhi.

2. Mary welcomed everyone.

a. Board of Directors of the Friends of the Braden River Library

Mary Frueh	President
Judy Mullen	Vice President
Gene Rado	Treasurer
Sharry Lueck	Secretary
Bernice Jones	Programs
Sue Capparella	Book sales
Nadia Gandhi	Teen Advisory

Board Representatives

Eirinn Camphire	Director
Bill Hager	Director
Mel Mandelkorn	Director
Linda Rado	Director
Louise Hauser	Director
Cathy Laird	Library Liaison
Susan Hustwit	Library Liaison

b. Thanks to Sue and her team for their hard work in the recent booksale.

3. Secretary's Report

Sharry read the minutes from the December 16th, 2023 meeting.

Gene moved that the minutes be accepted. Judy seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Treasurer's Report (see attached)

- Gene reviewed the January Financials, current assets & recent donations
We are up \$993 from last year even with paying for lots of programs
In January we are up \$4,000 with most from the book sale - \$3,770
- Linda moved that the financials be accepted. Sharry seconded the motion
The motion was unanimously approved.
- a. Mary sent a letter to a donor whose check was mis-dated and graciously requested that she rewrite the check

- b. We received a donation from the Patterson Foundation via the Community Foundation of Sarasota County and the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Learning which hosts a book circle at the library. The donation is a pay-it forward gift of \$500.
- c. Per the letter, a thank you will be sent to the Community Foundation of Sarasota County

5. Librarian's Reports

a. Summer Program

- Chris Culp, Children's Librarian, handed out the 2024 Summer Program Budget for Youth Services. She is requesting \$1,952.50 for the programs. (see attached) The board is welcome to attend the programs.
- Sharry moved to approve the request of \$1,952.50 for the 2024 Summer Youth Services budget. Linda seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. (see attached)

b. Library Garden

- The library garden is growing nicely and irrigation has been installed. The library is sponsoring an Earth Day fair in April and would like to add a metal spinner and is requesting \$50 for the spinner. Gene approved the motion and Mel seconded it. The motion was unanimously approved.

c. Teen Poetry Contest

- Rachel, the teen librarian, is requesting \$50 for a Visa gift card to be given to the winner of the teen poetry contest. Chris & Rachel may also create baskets for 1st, 2nd & 3rd places.
- Gene moved that the request for \$50 for the Teen Poetry contest be accepted, Linda seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Gene mentioned that the yoga instructor is paid \$60 a session - it is free to the public. She must have a donation basket because she puts money in an envelope and puts it in the Friends box after the sessions.

6. Programing – Bernice

- a. All programs for the Friends series December-April were approved; one change for March is the Barbershop Quartet program March 16, 2024. She had to substitute a different Barbershop Quartet because of a conflict.
- The programs have been well attended. The ukelele program was packed.
- The Improv program had over 20 people and many participated in the improv skit.
- Mike Ivankovich's e-bay program had around 40 people, many coming with paper to take notes.
- Active shooter program will be on March 6th from 1-2 PM (police-free)
- Barbershop Quartet (\$300) will be on March 16th at 11-1 PM
- The Manatee Historical Society will be presenting a program on April 13th at 11:00 (free-donation)
- The question arose if we should have snacks or not. The vote was for water but no snacks for programs. (Bingo & Trivia will continue with snacks)

7. Social media report – NA

8. Advertising for Friends sponsored programs

- We are looking for a volunteer to contact the Observer, East County Bradenton Herald and the Sarasota Herald Tribune. There were no volunteers. It was suggested that the contact information be typed up to give to the person who volunteers
- Eirinn has been posting photos of program fliers on Next Door

9. Bradentucky Bombers roller derby fundraiser

- Mary will contact Jeimy to follow up on doing the fundraiser again

10. Old Business

a. Murder Mystery benefit dinner

- Susan had presented the idea of hosting a murder mystery benefit dinner at the library in collaboration with Pineapple Kitchen at the November meeting. Ticket prices would be in the \$20-30 range
- Bernice moved that Susan check into it. Susan will get figures and availability and asked if someone would check on catering – if we could get a discount or get it free.

b. Payments authorized by the President for baskets donated for Staff Institute Day, January 29, 2024. The staff were given 2 tickets to put in the baskets and a winner was drawn from each basket.

c. Giving Challenge update – Judy

- The event will take place from noon April 9th till noon April 10th. It is an online event. The Patterson Foundation will match donations up to \$100. The event is held every other year. The Friends did not participate in the last challenge. We felt that other organizations needed the money more to help victims of the hurricane.
- Mary, Judy, Louise and Sharry will meet on February 23rd at 9:00 at the library to start planning for the event.

d. Empty shelves – Sharry had gotten contact information from the Rocky Bluff's Friend's group and placed a call. At the time of the meeting, she had not received a call back. (Sharry got a call the next day and the explanation of services, contract and client form were emailed to her & she has emailed back the completed forms.) We had voted for the 50/50 option rather than \$2.00 per book. (See attached explanation of services.)

11. New Business

a. Children's programs for the Summer Reading Program, 2024 (see attached)

b. Adult Summer Reading Program – not discussed but starting in March

c. August book sale – Sue – no date decided on yet.

- Sue reported that 85 slots were filled by volunteers and 531 people attended the book sale.
- Sue is overwhelmed with donations and will send emails out to 8 or 9 volunteers asking for an hour or two to box donations. We need small boxes to get them moved to the shed.

- The Salvation Army picked up all but 50 boxes of books and informed Sue that they are no longer taking book. Lakewood Ranch library did come and take some.
- We need to be more selective in what we keep – condition, publishing date, etc. but still need someone to pick up the remaining books.

Mel moved to adjourn the meeting and Bernice seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 7:08.

Board Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. The dates are:

Wednesday May 15, 2024. Judy officiating. Mary will email the agenda May 8th
Wednesday, August 21, 2024
Wednesday November 2024

The next Board meeting will be held May 15, 2024 at 6:00 at the library.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharry Lueck,
Secretary