

# Friends of Rockport Public Library Board Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2016, 8:30 AM in the Marine Room

**Board Members Present:** Ann Filley, Judy Lindahl, Nelda McClellan, Pat Messler, Carol Robinson, Chris Sady and Ben Blackmon, Library Director. **Guest:** Bill Chapman

Meeting called to order at 8:35 AM.

## Call to Order and Announcements

**Camden Marine Series** - Speaker will be Steve Callahan on April 28. We may want to go to hear him. We can start thinking about speakers for this fall.

Subcommittee for the Rockport Library Seafaring Series: Ann, Chris, Pat and Keith Drago  
Suggestions for speakers – Eva Murray, Charles Dodge, Tom and Jane Babbitt, Steve Callahan, “Bowdoin” at LymanMorse, Bob Branco?, the person who researches wrecks, storyteller John Foss of American Eagle)

*Action: Ann will check with Linda Kapp to be on the committee.*

**Secretary’s report** – Reviewed minutes of March 11 meeting. Accepted.

**Treasurer’s report** – Ann passed out the treasurer’s report. Three laptop computers were purchased this month. Current balance after the computer purchase is \$16,232. Treasurer’s report accepted.

## Library Director’s report –

- Three laptops purchased. Adrian is upgrading them. There will be some added expenses that FRPL has approved.
- Updated Computer Use Policies are in compliance.
- Amount FRPL donated to library in the past year - \$20,000 and \$300 in-kind
- Laura attended her first quarterly statewide Cataloguers’ Round Table meeting.
- Ben completed webinars for new library directors for professional development.
- 5 Town CSD Adult Ed courses were taught by library staff this semester.
- Easter egg hunt at Mary Lea Park – 75 kids and as many adults.
- Skip and Connie concert went well. Growing partnership between library staff and Terry, Opera House scheduler.
- Keith Drago started this week as Deputy Director and Adult Services librarian
- Marketing – new logo for the library is in development
- *Libraries Transform* is a national campaign. Ben will be using some of the campaign materials.
- The French group is back to using the library.
- Attendance is high. Door counters started in April last year. So now can be compared. ebooks on the rise a bit. Download library is a good investment. Downloads stay on your computer or phone for 2 weeks. Reference is down this month. In March 631 people attended events. Volunteer hours are up.
- Ben needs articles for the newsletter. Deadline is Friday, April 29. Judy will be our editor. Keith Drago has an editing background, which will be helpful.

**Ad Hoc Library Planning Committee Update** – Ann reported that Ad Hoc Committee is transitioning to working with Reed and Co, the architectural firm selected by the Select Board. Site development, how the building will look with consideration to programming space, future growth and consideration for passing a bond are all topics of discussion. The last committee meeting diverted into discussing the size of library. They have a subcommittee that puts out responses to FAQ and communicates with the public. We discussed the current library building square footage vs the old building. Library support does not necessarily correspond with usage. The committee and the FRPL board can help to educate people about the new library and the need for adequate square footage.

## **Old Business**

### **Spring Newsletter – Articles due April 29.**

**2016 Book Sale** - Planning, committees, deadlines

Publicity – Ann reported. Press release is done.

Volunteers - Ann making a grid of dates and times when people will be the volunteer leader.

Ann will contact Jenny Ruddy about special books to see about her availability this year.

Books we have for sale this year: 1<sup>st</sup> edition British mystery novels – mid to late 20<sup>th</sup> century, 78 records, art books

We want to make new signs for the tables – Nelda will make a list of all categories. Will do the children's titles in a different color card stock.

Judy has the list of volunteers. Check the list and let Judy know if there is anyone she should not be calling.

Bill Chapman volunteered to make a dozen new sign holders.

**Membership Committee** – meeting next Monday. Would like to use Constant Contact to send out the membership letter to all library cardholders. Committee will be in touch with Ben after the meeting.

## **New Business -**

Library Committee positions open – one 1-year position and two 3-year positions. The Library Committee meets once a month for 2 hours.

Cate Monroe is not running again. Stevie Kumble is running again. Ann Filley, Bill Frohlich and Brooke Kehoe are also running for the three-year positions.

Michele Gabrielson has stepped down, creating a one-year opening. Paul Charbonneau has taken out papers for this position.

**Referendum Question this June:** Question relating to keeping new library on One Limerock Street only. Select Board recommendation is 0:5 against the referendum. We are told to expect a campaign to pass the question.

**Next Meeting date:** Friday, May 20 at 8:30 AM in the Marine Room.

Adjourn at 10: 32 AM.

Respectfully submitted, Christine Sady, Secretary