

## **Friends of Rockport Public Library Board Meeting Minutes January 8, 2016 - Marine Room at temporary location, 485 Commercial St.**

**Board Members present:** Ann Filley, Kathleen Meil, Pat Messler, Carol Robinson, Chris Sady, and Ben Blackmon, Interim library director. **Absent:** Judy Lindahl, Nelda McClellan  
**Guest:** Bill Chapman

**Meeting called to order at 8:34 AM.**

**Secretary's report** – Minutes of December 4, 2015 meeting approved as read.

**Treasurer's report** – November and December financial reports reviewed and discussed. Ann presented 2016 Budget. The Board added \$1000 to Income line for a Friends' fundraiser and under Expenses changed the interlibrary loan amount to \$120.

*Action: November and December treasurer's reports approved. Approved the 2016 budget with changes. Ann will make the changes as discussed.*

**Library Director's report** – The library has been busy since the move; some new patrons are coming in. The staff is settling in. Staffing update - Kim has officially left her full-time position. At this time, she is a part-time temporary employee. Laura is now full-time as a cataloguer and technical services librarian. They are down one full-time person.

Ben noted current library needs:

- Replace Laptop computers - has talked with Adrian about the cost for new ones.
- Furniture – chairs, lamps
- Larger sign for the roadway
- An OPEN flag which will attach to the building
- Large whiteboard to hang behind the circulation board, with notices, events, or quotes, changed often.

A patron has offered \$1000 for a new sign, which could become a challenge for other funds.

*Action: 1. Ben requested the Friends help with cleaning attic (in the eaves) at old building.  
2. Ben will prepare a list of computer and furniture needs with costs.*

### **Old Business**

**Status of new signs** – We discussed the need for a new sign out by the road and an OPEN sign by the building.

*Action: Ben will find out about road sign - restrictions, type of materials, cost, and get details about patron donation for sign. He will also get an estimate for flag and holder.*

**Status of filming the move** – Student Alexis Mpaka took photographs on Friday and Sunday of the move weekend. She charged \$100.

*Action: Kathleen with talk with Alexis about getting access to the photos.*

**Discuss media outlets and how FRPL can help with PR** – Looked at the sheet of compiled board suggestions for sharing library information. As an adjunct to the library, Friends want to advocate for the library. Everything we state must be in agreement with the library, the Library Committee and with Ben. Ben wants to use Constant Contact to thank all volunteers who helped with the move and to announce the Open House.

Discussion about enlisting the middle school art teacher or Sweet Tree in Hope to see if any students want to paint murals to decorate the library. We agreed that children's art could be used as a temporary display.

*Action: Will continue this discussion at next meeting.*

### **What Ben is telling people about planning for a new building**

- Location – The Ad Hoc Planning Committee is considering 1 Limerock Street, Memorial Park, or a combination of both
- Size recommendation that was accepted is for 8750 sq. ft. of useable space
- Ben is sharing that there will be a town referendum on June 14 - to vote on 1 Limerock Street as the only location for the new Library. (It reads "To see if the Town will vote that any reconstruction, expansion, improvement, renovation or replacement of the Rockport Public Library be limited to its current location at 1 Limerock Street.")

**How Friends can help with the Open House** - Friday February 26 is the tentative date for the Open House, probably from 2-4 PM.

*Action: Ben will check with the Rockport 125<sup>th</sup> Committee about the date, since that is the weekend of the Rockport 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. We will discuss further at next meeting.*

### **New Business**

#### **Review By-Laws in 2016 –**

*Action: tabled until next meeting.*

**Fund raising for the library** – The Capital Campaign Committee might want to partner with Legacy Rockport or the Friends during the library fundraising Campaign, rather than the Library Committee, to insure names of donors can be kept anonymous.

**Grant writing workshop** – Pat and Eliza attended the grant writing workshop of the Maine Community Foundation on January 7.

#### **Liability Insurance –**

*Action: tabled until next meeting.*

**Bulletin board: The FRPL bulletin board** Is located opposite the circulation desk. This is a very visible location and we want to give it more attention.

*Action: Discuss at our next meeting.*

*Will have our picture taken at our next meeting for placement on the bulletin board.*

**Next meeting date: Friday, February 12 at 8:30 AM at the Library.**

**Adjourn at 10:35 AM**

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Sady, Secretary, Friends of Rockport Public Library