

Aurora Free Library
Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2022

Present (in-person): Susan Deacon, Thea Miller, David Eckhardt, Sue Dean, Natalie Kimbrough

Present (via Zoom): Dennis Looney and Ellen Wikstrom

Excused:

Staff: Sandy Groth

Guests: Marie Dentes, Barb Blom

The meeting was conducted both in-person and via ZOOM (in compliance with recent social distancing recommendations and NYS Executive Orders in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic). The meeting was recorded.

- A. Susan Deacon called the meeting to order at 5:33pm and welcomed all in attendance.
- B. Conflict of Interest – No conflicts of interest were noted. Thea motioned to approve, Dave seconded. CARRIED
- C. Committee Reports-
 - a. Fundraising-
 - i. Marie Dentes presented information regarding the BLB, which is scheduled for Friday, Oct 7 at the Aurora Inn. Ticket sales opened the week of July 11th, at the cost of \$80 each.
 - ii. Robert Mryzak, author of the "The Indomitable Florence Finch: The Untold Story of a War Widow Turned Resistance Fighter and Savior of American POW's", will be speaking the Sunday following the BLB (10/9) at 2:00 pm at the AFL.
 - iii. Plant sale occurred May 7th, raising \$620.
 - iv. Barb Blom gave an update on the Book Sale - scheduled for the weekend of the Route 90 Yard Sale (7/29-7/31) at the Masonic Lodge. Reusable totes for the sale were discussed, due to timing and funding the tote purchase will be revisited at a later date. Sue Dean will look into purchasing plastic bags for patrons to use during the sale.
 - b. Preservation -
 - i. Dave outlined the following short-term goals
 1. Gutters need to be cleaned and unclogged. Dave is working with Ethan McCormick at the Aurora Fire Department, to determine if they can reach the gutters with their 50 foot ladder.
 2. Side rails on the front steps have heaved (north-side specifically). Dave met with a local mason to discuss repairs. Waiting on quote.
 3. Side step construction. Dave met with a local mason to discuss replacing temporary steps with permanent steps constructed with Pennsylvania Bluestone. Waiting on quote. This project will need a

code and building permit, along with approval from the Community Preservation Panel. Dave is meeting the panel on August 3rd.

ii. Long-term projects: window replacement, pressure wash and seal front steps

c. Nominating Committee

i. Natalie will determine how many openings the board needs to fill for the 2023 year.

D. Treasurer's report -

a. Thea noted that expenses remain at budgeted levels.

E. Director's Report -

a. Sandy reported successful start of summer reading programs. Targeting elementary, tween and teen audiences; including, family yoga, tween book club and cupcake wars.

b. Inns of Aurora (IOA) AFL partnership. When Out-of-town IOA guests come in and want to check out materials, guests are registered and receive a library card which may only be used that one time. The board discussed developing an IOA library card, allowing guests to check-out materials and then discussed who would be liable for any loss of library materials.

c. Sandy has been asked to participate in both the Wheat Harvest Festival (8/6) and Aurora Fest (8/27). The board is working with Sandy to see what is feasible.

F. Long Range Plan

a. Susan Deacon presented the Long Range Plan (LRP) structure. Board members have been assigned the following sections:

- i. Facility - Dave
- ii. Finance - Sue Dean and Thea
- iii. Marketing and PR - Sue Dean and Natalie
- iv. Partnership - Dennis
- v. Personnel - Dennis
- vi. Programming - Ellen

G. Adjournment – Natalie moved to adjourn the meeting, Dave seconded. CARRIED
Meeting adjourned at 8:01pm.