

Friends of the Joliet Public Library – Minutes June 5, 2021

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m.
2. Members Present: Dave Hlavac, Linda Aguilar, Frankie Overcash, Mallory Hewlett, Ethel Garrett, Marilyn Bohner, Pat Boyle, John Davis.
3. Agenda Additions: Dave apologized for the late notice for today's meeting. Pat asked that we add to New Business a discussion regarding how to use the funds from a memorial donation.
4. Treasurer's Report:
Beginning balance as of 01/01/21 = \$32,961.04
Income = \$13,625.66
Expenses = \$88.28
Ending Balance as of 05/31/21 = \$46,498.42
We made \$1,556.72 from the ongoing sales, \$85 from Disc Replay and \$10,428.69 from Thrift. There was a large volume of deleted books from Ottawa Street that were sent to Thrift. We also received \$1,481.25 in donations in memory of John Johnson (former library director) and Rita Ann Miller (former Friends member). Frankie sent thank-you notes to the families and to the donors.
Motion to approve the treasure's report was made by Pat; second by Marilyn; motion passed.
5. Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes was made by Pat; second by Marilyn; motion passed.
6. Library News:
 - Mallory Hewlett reported that the summer reading programs are ongoing until July 31.
 - The Ottawa Street location is still under construction so there is limited activity there. The ongoing sale has been suspended until after the remodeling so we may need to give out substitute prizes instead of free books for the summer reading program there.
 - Covid protocols are likely to change after June 11 when the state reopens in Phase 5. Right now, masks are optional. Meeting rooms are still closed to the public. There will be some changes in policy about how people can reserve meeting rooms. The Friends are approved to meet at Black Road for our scheduled meetings.
 - As the library opens more, seating is back at computers, etc.
 - There have been some layout changes at Black Road. The Friends ongoing book sale has been moved to the other side of the Circulation Desk (where the hold books used to be).
 - If Joliet holds Kidzfest this year, Mallory will let us know about the library's participation.
 - The library director has asked that we have a sale to clear out current inventory before we start asking for donations from the public.
7. Funding Requests: No new funding requests at this time. We voted via email to approve funding summer reading program prizes.
8. Committee Reports:
 - Membership: Paul has been keeping up with the database. So far this year, we have 3 new members. The membership application is online, but there is no way to pay dues online. Dave will investigate how we can accept credit card and other types of online payments. Dues can be paid in person at either branch.

- Publicity: We want to have more exposure for the Friends and our sales. Mallory is updating the webpage. No one has been keeping up with the Facebook page. Dave will work on updating that. There was some discussion about publicity ideas for the fall sale.

9. Old Business:

- There was no tent sale last year due to Covid restrictions.

10. New Business:

- Now that the library is hosting more activities, we may see an increase in funding requests. We will try to discuss and vote on them in person at our regular meetings, however, if timing is important, we will continue to have the option of voting via email.
- Next meeting dates are scheduled for 10 am at Black Road on September 4, and December 4. Due to scheduling conflicts, Dave will see if we can change the December 4th meeting to a Saturday in November.
- If Joliet hosts Light Up the Holidays after Thanksgiving we may want to have a book sale.
- Fall Book Sale dates: Oct. 7th – set up; Oct. 8th – members only sale from 1 to 3 pm; open to the public from 3 to 5 pm; Oct. 9th – full day sale 9 am to 5 pm; Oct. 10th – bag sale from 1 to 3 pm and take down from 3 to 5 pm. Dave will send out an email later asking for volunteers, but we can start getting the word out now that there will be a sale. If anyone has ideas for publicity, send an email to the Friends at friendsofjpl@jolietlibrary.org.
- Dave expressed his thanks to Ron Likovic and his team who did a tremendous job with the logistics of moving the ongoing sale area at Black Road, continuing to organize our inventory of books, and for all Ron's work at Ottawa Street getting the deleted books into the Thrift bins, clearing out the Friends room in the basement, and moving the rest of our inventory there to our new space on the 3rd floor.
- Kidzfest – August 7th. Dave would like to have a small book sale. If you are available to volunteer, please let Dave know.
- Dave proposed that we extend all existing Friends' memberships for 1 year due to us not meeting or having sales during the pandemic.
Motion to approve was made by Marilyn, second by Pat. Motion passed.
- There was some further discussion about when we will be able to start accepting donations for future sales. We may be able to accept them at Ottawa Street as we have room to store books on the 3rd floor.
- Officers up for re-election this year: Dave's 2-year term is up, and all other officers are elected annually so all officers need to be elected this year. Dave will send out an email asking for volunteers to run for office. The duties of each office are in the By-Laws.
- Pat has an idea for how to use the money donated to the Friends in memory of Rita Miller. Rita specifically wanted the money to go to children/children's books. Pat would like the Friends to buy at least 3 different titles of infant books (including some in Spanish) to give to expectant parents. The books could be held at the Circulation Desk and a notice to new/expectant parents could be posted in the Parenting Corner at Ottawa Street informing them to ask at the desk for a free book. It would be a limited time offer until the funds were used up.

11. Adjourn time: 12:47 a.m. Motion to adjourn by Pat; second by Marilyn; meeting adjourned.