

**Friends of the Joliet Public Library**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Saturday, April 13, 2024**  
**Black Road Branch**

1. Convene and Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. Roll Call - Members Present: John Davis, Laurence Dent, Linda Aguilar, Frankie Overcash, Ron Likovic, Val Devine, Ethel Garrett, Marilyn Boehner, Joe Furlan, Paul Rak, Rita Miller, Katie Fountaine, Elaine Bottomley, Soren Haurberg, Michele Janicek, Tina Blackburn, Amber Vercler
3. Agenda Additions: None
4. Treasurer's Report: see handouts itemizing income and expenses and the report from Thriftbooks.  
Beginning balance as of 02/29/2024 = \$39,056.74  
Income = \$1,077.22  
Expenses = \$5,310.20  
Balance as of 12/31/23 = \$34,823.76
  - In addition, we have received a \$1000.00 donation from the estate of Kenire Karedwill.
  - Motion to approve treasurer's report was made by Joe; second by Ethel; motion approved.
5. Read and Approve Minutes from November 18, 2023
  - Motion to approve the minutes was made by Laurence; second by Katie; motion approved.
6. Library News: Val Devine, Liaison
  - Re: our request for additional shelving in our storage area in the basement of OSB – Joe will get pricing for us.
  - If we wish to advertise our sales on the digital signs around Joliet, we can get the community rate of \$500 for 4 weeks.
  - Marketing will start promoting our sales earlier. For example, fliers will be placed in "hold books" starting this week.
  - Lanyards with Friends ID tags were found and will be available for us at the spring sale.
  - If you wish to volunteer to work at Star Wars Day, June 1 from 11 am to 3 pm, Val will send around a sign-up sheet.
  - The Rock Run Room (formerly the Book & Dean Café) is available for use by community groups.
  - We have been asked to donate approx. 200 books to the Back-to-School Fair in July sponsored by Senator Longhran-Cappel and Representative Manley. We have donated books to them for this event for the past couple years. They previously gave the Friends a \$100 donation as a thank you.
7. Committee Reports:
  - Membership: Paul noted that there will be an update of all new members available at the May sale. Currently we have about 120 contacts in the database.
    - When do we let people know that their membership has expired? An email is sent through Wild Apricot.
    - There was some discussion about the square we use to process credit cards at the sales. Dave has it, but we need an updated iPad to use it (instead of someone's cell phone). Paul and Dave will find out if we can link the square to our Friends banks account.

- Publicity: Val is working with Mallory on publicity for the next sale.
  - We usually have yard signs along Black Road.
  - The sandwich board is inside the library.
  - The sale dates will be added to the website and Facebook page earlier to give people more notice.
  - The contacts for the Troy and Minooka school districts will be added to Mallory's list of schools who are willing to publicize the book sale through their newsletters.
  - Posters will be displayed in the large frames located by each of the ongoing book sales.
- Bylaws Committee: Members include Laurence, Katie, and Ron.
  - They will use the current version (last update in 2018) as a starting point. Copies of this document were distributed. Comments or questions from the committee were underlined.
  - Some suggested changes include reducing the price for lifetime membership to \$100 (instead of \$300).
  - Questions for the group:
    - What age is a student member and is that a voting member? The group agreed that a student member is anyone 16 years or older who is still in school (through college). They need to show a current student ID. If the student is under 16, they can be included in a family membership.
    - What age is a senior? The group decided 65 years or older.
  - Paul noted that the Bylaws should be broad and not include day-to-day operations of the group.
  - John recommended having an executive board that includes the 4 officers, the library liaison, and 3 members at large.
  - The VP position should be a 2-year term on the even years if the President is elected for a 2-year term on the odd years.
  - It was suggested we scan the hard copies of the old meeting minutes to keep in an archive or on the website.

8. Old Business: The dates for the Spring Sale at BRB are May 3 – 5.

9. New Business:

- Funding Requests: None
- Fundraising: Book Sale times are: 5 – 7 pm Fri. (members only or join at the door); 10 am – 3 pm on Sat. (general public); 3 – 4 pm clean up and remove items not to be included in the bag sale (Friends volunteers); 1 – 3 pm Sunday bag sale (public); 3 – 4 pm non-profit give away. Tina will make phone calls to the non-profit groups about the giveaway.
- After the bag sale and giveaway, the unsold books will be boxed up to send to the Pilcher Park recycling event. Val will work with Joe on a location to store them until then.

10. Announcements:

- Elaine Bottomly, who recently joined the Friends, is a member of the Library Board. She thanked the Friends for all our volunteer work on behalf of the library.
- Star Wars Day is June 1
- Upcoming meeting dates: September – at OSB – we can park for free in the Ottawa Street parking deck on Saturdays.

11. Adjourn: 11:34 a.m.

- Motion to adjourn made by Marilyn; second by Ethel; motion approved.