

Friends Meeting February 4, 2025

Meeting opened at 6:30 by Beth Plas, President. 12 members were in attendance.

Membership Report: 2025 membership is at 98 members.

January minutes were read and approved.

No correspondence.

Treasurer Report: The Treasurer was not in attendance.

Book Sale Report

The May book sale will be: May 5 – May 10 with the possibility of moving the Friends preview to the Saturday prior, May 3. The Community Room has been reserved from May 1 (after 3pm) through May 10.

Rita was not in attendance; however, Phil reported that the committee had met to go through the books collected so far. The raffle basket theme will be Gardening. Member donations are welcome. It would be nice to have a wheelbarrow or wagon.

Discussion was held regarding additional signage. Marilyn is following up getting quotes on the purchase of additional yard signs. She has the artwork and has contacted Meldrums. We also need a banner or book sale letters for the library windows. Beth will follow up with Rita regarding the library signage.

Discussion was held regarding posting specific pricing. As a non-profit group, we would need to calculate and pay sales tax if we had defined pricing. It was decided it was much less complicated to just accept donations.

Director Report

Adele was in attendance. She updated the status of the North Eaton mini-branch. We are waiting on the Certificate of Occupancy to be issued. Furniture and shelving is in place. In addition, there is still no internet. Adele is working with Frontier now. She hopes opening will be end of February but no date has been set. The branch will be open 3 days per week.

The Library is investigating some short term solutions to spacing and is looking at the Coffman Optical building as a possible option.

The Charlie Cart classes for kids of all ages is in place. Valerie is hoping to offer some version of "Kitchen-in-a-Box" to fifth graders at their school.

The Oberlin Food pantry did a program for seniors at our library and brought lockable prescription bags. They have also received a large grant from Lorain County Public Health to disperse Narcan kits and training to rural areas. Adele is working with them to offer a secure dispensary in the Library lobby and training for staff.

Trustee Report

No Trustees were in attendance. The Special School Board Meeting scheduled 12/9/2024 minutes were still not available on the website, but Beth circulated the summary of the Board Meeting given to her by a Trustee.

We asked for volunteers to attend the Library Trustee Meeting on the second Tuesday of the month and then report back to membership the following month. Members can sign up for a specific date. Adele mentioned that meetings may be available via zoom in the future and she will let us know.

Old Business

The office of Vice President remains open since Kathy Hyle has stepped down.

Business

March is Women's History Month and in recognition of that we are offering a program on Dorothy Fuldheim. The program will be performed by Anne McEvoy of Cleveland's Women in History. The program is about 45 minutes, followed by questions and input from the audience. Due to demand, it was decided that we should take reservations after all. Our room capacity is about 37. Communication was sent out to members and the Rural Urban notice will be updated to reflect that.

We will follow up with the Maltz Museum for GMPL Express visit possibly in April if they offer free admission for that month again this year.

Darlene Lyon mentioned our Friends web page was in need of updates. Discussion followed.

Kim Renuart suggested we collect cards at our April meeting and do a "Cards for Kathy" campaign.

There will be no business meeting in May and November due to the book sales.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 4 at 6:00pm in the Community Room. There will be no business meeting due to the program.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Jalowiec, Secretary