Meeting Minutes

June 24, 2024 6:30pm – 9 Mary E. Clark Drive, Hampstead, NH Meeting Room



1. Meeting Called to Order at 6:32pm.

Present: President Nick Mancusi, Vice President Lisa Hodge, Treasurer Kara Buteau, Trustees Liaison Carol Cipriano, Library Liaison Emily Wentworth, Thrift Shop Manager Sue Mancusi, members Barbara Stilwell and Martha Swiderski.

2. President's Report

• Friends banner is up for the town's 275th anniversary, it is near the Hampstead Fire Department.

• Nick attended Fairy tea with his wife, Joyce presented him with a thank you cross stitch piece and card. He was very impressed with the event.

• Hannaford blooming for good is wrapping up for the month of June, stats for that will be shared at the next meeting.

3. Secretary's Report

• June read the highlights from the minutes of the March 24th meeting.

4. Treasurer's Report

- Kara shared her treasurer's report for March-May.
- Total income was \$6,340 plus \$4.45 in interest
- Peabody Essex Museum, Castle in the Clouds, Bedrock Gardens, Children's Museum of NH passed renewed.
- Ending balance \$35,700.48

5. Vice President's Report

- Lisa shared some thoughts on membership and fundraising beyond the thrift shop.
- She has learned about corporate giving, where employers match charitable donations made by employees. She is working toward updating the Friends' profile in the database.

6. Library Liaison's Report

• Emily presented check requests for the renewal of the Seacoast Science Center pass (\$150), and half of the Museum of Science Pass (\$350).

• She read a letter from Julie requesting an additional \$19.79 for the mah jongg set and official card, bringing the new total to \$74.79. Motion to approve the extra cost made by June, seconded by Lisa, all in favor.

• She read a letter from Janet requesting a bocce ball set, spikeball game, pickleball set, and ice cream maker to add to the library 'Tools & Toys' collection. The total of all items would be

\$266.92. Motion to approve all items made by Lisa, seconded by June, all in favor.

7. Trustees Liaison's Report

· Carol shared some updates from the trustees

8. Thrift Shop Manager's Report

• Sue and June continue to rethink the running of the thrift shop and volunteer schedules.

• There is still a large amount of unsellable donations coming in that they are having to dispose of. It is hard to limit this since they don't want people to stop bringing items all together.

Old Business

9. Bylaws Revisions

• Nick reviewed his proposed bylaws updates from the last meeting. He presented new materials showing specific wording changes to the current bylaws.

• June suggested letting people have time to go over the materials and hold an additional meeting to discuss.

• Further discussion ensued concerning who should be on the voting board of directors, the auditor's role and presence in the bylaws, and voting permissions for members.

• Nick made a motion to change the wording in Article 9, Paragraph 1, to "The Board of directors for the Friends of the Hampstead Public Library shall be comprised of (7) seven members consisting of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Library-Liaison, Trustees-Liaison, and Thrift Shop Manager. The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be named as officers of the organization and act as it's executive committee. All (7) members shall have all of the privileges and voting rights for decision-making of the organization at any convened meetings of the Board.", Sue seconded, Lisa made a suggestion to remove the apostrophe from "it's", all in favor.

• Sue made a motion to remove the wording "Library personnel..." through "...of interest." in Article 8 Paragraph 4, seconded by Kara, all in favor.

• Nick made a motion to change the wording in Article 9 Paragraph 4 to "The Board of Directors, when matters of urgency or where time is of the essence, may convene via email thread, telephone or video conference, or in person. During such times the Board is authorized to approve expenditures up to \$2,000 per request. An email thread shall count as the official record in such cases and can be presented at the next scheduled meeting of the board for inclusion and acceptance of the minutes.", seconded by Lisa, all in favor.

• Nick made a motion to change the wording in Article 12 Paragraph 1 to "Meetings of the Board of Directors define quorum as a majority of Directors present (4 of 7) four of seven directors present including the President or Vice-President as stipulated by the roles of the Officers in these Bylaws, in order to conduct business.", seconded by Kara, all in favor.

• Nick made a motion to remove the wording of "unassigned liaison" and change "Executive Officers" to "Board of Directors", seconded by Lisa, all in favor.

• Nick made a motion to remove auditor as director in Article 9 and add wording to Article 11 "An Auditor shall be selected and approved by the Board of Directors as a consultant to the

Friends of the Hampstead Public Library. The Auditor shall prepare and perform an annual audit of the accounts and records of the Treasurer for the preceding fiscal year (September 1st to August 31st) and submit the report in writing with copies to the President and the Treasurer within two months of the close of the previous fiscal year.", seconded by Kara, all in favor.

• Nick made a motion to change the wording in Article 3 to dispose of remaining assets "to the Board of Trustees of the Hampstead Public Library in a manner agreed upon by the Friends and the Board of Trustees.", Lisa seconded, all in favor.

• Nick made a motion to add signatures of all directors of the board, seconded by Lisa, all in favor.

10. Annual Meeting

• Nick opened a discussion about the annual meeting and ideas on increasing Friends Participation.

• Members discussed having a more laid back event with refreshments to entice people to join and participate in meetings rather than just pay the dues every year.

• There will be a concerted effort to have more of the 90-100 members attend meetings.

• Emily will present the idea of holding a Friends/Staff Mixer event at the staff meeting next week and get back to the Friends.

11. Nominating Committee

• Everyone currently holding a position is planning to run again in August so there is no desperate need for a nominating committee.

New Business

12. New Business

• No new business.

13. Next Meeting

TBD Early September

14. Motion to Adjourn

Motion made by Sue, seconded by Kara, all in favor, meeting adjourned 8:25pm.

Minutes prepared by Emily Wentworth for Secretary June Lahey.