Friends of the Ste. Genevieve County Library

Meeting Minutes, Monday, December 14, 2018

The meeting opened at 6:05 pm. In attendance, Joe Swope, Jerry Klein, Linda Summers, Dick Fieg, Debbie Kirchner, Carol Shelton, Julie Bova and Elizabeth ( Liz) Rudloff.

A motion was made by Jerry Klein to accept the meeting minutes from November 12, 2018, seconded by Carol Shelton and approved by the group.

**Treasurer’s Report**.

Carol Shelton presented the treasurer’s report as follows:

Previous month’s checking account balance was $401.92. Carol issued a check to Jerry Klein for $28 for the news ad for the November book fair and made deposits in the amounts of $16.00 from used book sales and $313.42 from the Scholastic Book Fair on 12/4/2018, bringing the current balance to $703.34. Jerry Klein presented a receipt for $6 for blankets purchased for the Read Me A Story Event. Julie Bova made a motion to approve this amount for payment, seconded by Dick Fieg and approved by the group. Carol Shelton then reimbursed Jerry by check.

**Library Director’s Report**

Liz Rudloff reported the following highlights from the December meeting of the Library Board :

The Library hosted another video game night on November 30th with 20 participants in attendance. The Library staff will present a Pajama Storytime with Santa event on December 14 at 6:30 pm, with Christmas book readings, carols, hot chocolate and Santa.

Liz attended the Missouri Public Library Directors’ Meeting in Columbia, MO on December 6-7. There was a meeting with MO Evergreen during this event; there are currently 45 libraries in the MO Evergreen consortium and they are adding an additional 4 libraries in 2019 which is the maximum their schedule will allow. Morenet was also represented at this meeting and they announced their intent to expand into Southeast Missouri next year. Ms. Rudloff visited with a representative from the St. Louis Astronomical Society. Currently, there are 72 telescopes in the State of Missouri that have been outfitted by the Society with materials to help the astronomy student properly utilize the telescope. The SLAS offered to come to the Ste. Genevieve County Library in spring 2019 to host a telescope demonstration and assist with setting up a star gazing event. Liz met Missouri State Librarian Robin Westfall who discussed the State of MO 2019 initiative to provide equal access to everyone throughout the state to Library services. The initiative has been presented and approved by the State Senate and is now in the State House of Representatives awaiting approval.

Liz is working on the Community Development Fund grant application which is due 12/31/2019. The application includes updates to the Children’s area and flooring replacement for the Library. She is also finishing the 2019 projected Library budget which will be sent to the Library Board by 12/14/2019.

A new security camera was ordered for the DVD section of the Library, following a sizable theft of DVDs within the past month. That area of the Library has a “blind spot” in the current camera range. Joe Swope suggested the staff look inside of each DVD cover to make sure the discs are there.

Ms. Rudloff noted she attended the County Commissioners’ meeting with Karen Stuppy of the Library Board to present a letter of intent to change the current Library lease agreement with the Community Center. The Lease Agreement has some language that conflicts with the Library’s Intergovernmental Agreement which she would like to address. County Commissioner Garry Nelson attended the Library Board meeting to answer some of the questions raised by this issue but no final resolution has been presented at this time.

The Bloomsdale facility is still experiencing low traffic but until the Library is able to put lending materials there to attract patrons, it will be a slow process to build those numbers.

**FOTL Business**

**A. Telescope Display and Star Gazing Events:** The telescope display is attracting a lot of attention and several of the astronomy-related books on the display have been checked out of the Library several times. Dick Fieg noted he has spoken to Sandra Cabot about the display; she said she has been in the Library and is very happy with the way the telescope is being utilized. Dick then presented a star map depicting the upcoming Comet P46 event 12/14,15, and 16. He would like to host a star gazing event in an area he thinks may be ideal for low light pollution and open horizon viewing. Dick will let Liz know the particulars for setting up the telescope on 12/14 so she can advertise this to the public.

**B. Scholastic Book Fair:** Debbie Kirchner reported she is still experiencing difficulty communicating with Scholastic Books about the accounting of our sales, what (if anything) we owe them and how to bring this event to resolution. She will email and call Scholastic Books again this week for assistance. The FOTL will table discussion of future book fairs until the outcome of this fair is established.

**C. Local Authors Display and Event:** Jerry Klein reported he has 1-2 additional authors to add to the current list of 42 local authors. Liz noted she has been able to purchase or acquire 14 of the 42 books; she is only able to add a few each month as her materials purchasing budget allows. Joe Swope asked if a shelf can be cleared and identified as a Local Authors’ area of the Library (as time permits) and asked Liz to migrate these books to the shelf as they become available. He suggested this be initiated prior to having a Meet the Local Authors event. Liz stated she will put this project on her agenda but moving shelving in the Library has posed a larger project that she thought it would be as the shelving is bolted down and she has to enlist the help of maintenance.

**D. FOTL Flag/Jour de Fete Signage:** Jerry noted he had spoken to Ron Inman about how to request a place for a FOTL sign on the Jour de Fete / Lion’s Club display. Bill will bring our request to the December Lion’s Club meeting and let Jerry know how to proceed.

**E. Read Me A Story:** Jerry Klein noted theFOTL read to 13 children over the 2 day Christmas Festival. The low turnout was likely due to scheduling and weather issues but after some discussion, the group agreed to participate again in 2019.

**F. Winter Storytime Party:** Linda Summers noted she will work with Taylor Bequette to schedule and host a Storytime party in January, date to be determined. She also stated that if Taylor would like to duplicate the party at the Bloomsdale Wee World Storytime, she is on board with that.

**G. Book Lending Program:** Jerry Klein asked if anyone had any issues to discuss regarding the program. As book donations have been scarce, most volunteers have postponed swapping out their book selections at their facilities until there is more inventory to select.

**New Business:** There being no new business to discuss, Dick Fieg made a motion to adjourn at 8:33 pm which was seconded by Carol Shelton and approved unanimously. The next meeting is scheduled on Monday, January 14, 2019 at 6:00 pm.

Linda Summers, Secretary