

**FRIENDS OF THE BEL AIR LIBRARY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MONDAY OCTOBER 28, 2024 6:00PM**

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Annie Kovach, Amy Cedrone, Bill and Marie Kridenoff, Leslie and Cliff Riden, Carole Conrad, Cheryl Descipo, Luvenia Woodward and Dawn Grandizio.

Ms. Cedrone commenced the meeting at 6:01. The August minutes were approved by all. Mrs. Kridenoff presented the **Treasurer's Report** as follows:

a/o 09/10/2024: Checking Account balance: \$ 3,138.62 Savings Account balance: \$11,198.41
a/o 09/10/2024: Checking Account balance: \$12,713.87 Savings Account balance: \$ 6,198.50

A transfer of \$5,000 was made from Savings to a four month CD, maturing in February of 2025 to take advantage of increased interest rate.

The October Book Sale contributed incoming funds of \$ 8,821.25 as well as \$320 from T-Shirt sales and \$434 from Memberships.

The Treasurer's report was approved by all.

LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE: The Foundation will meet on 9/24/24. The Gala event, held on October 26, 2024 was sold out and a success. Additionally, the Anirban Base Economic Forecast, held in September, was also a great success.

The Taste of Harford for 2025 has been scheduled at Vignon Farms for May 18, 2025.

BRANCH MANAGER'S REPORT: Ms Kovach reviewed the attendance for the Drop-in Block printing and Stuffed Animal Portrait events. She had the following requests: \$100 for the Children Department's Prize Bin, \$300 for the Holiday Open House on Dec 7, \$100 for Wingspan games for a new monthly program and \$380 for Winter Reading Program pens. These requests were approved by all.

Ms. Kovach also said the library will have a Holiday Open House on Saturday, Dec 7, after hours between 5-7pm. Several members of the Friends group have volunteered to help that evening.

Ms. Kovach has been reviewing the potential use of Better World Books (BWB) for removal of left over books from book sales and withdrawn books. Abingdon Library currently uses their services. BWB provides the boxes to be used for the books which would be a cost savings in box costs as we currently buy our own boxes. Additionally there can be a financial payment by BWB for the sale of any of the donated books. Ms Kovach will need to inquire how this process works. Pickup would be scheduled through the BWB portal. BWB then arranges for UPS to pick up filled boxes in quantities of 40,80 or 120 boxes from the Library. The Library will need to continue to store boxed books until they reach the quantity to be scheduled for pickup. Ms Kovach has provided options for storage in her detailed managers report. One requirement for the use of the dock storage room however is the removal of a lift that currently exists in the space. Feasibility of the lift removal is being reviewed.

NEW BUSINESS:

There were no out of cycle requests.

A request was made by Ms Cedrone for \$170.35 for reimbursement for a case of tape, labels and Sharpies. Request was approved by all.

OLD BUSINESS: The Fall Adult Charity Book sale, held on Oct 10-14, was a success with sales of \$8,821.25.

There are many audio books, withdrawn by the Bel Air library, remaining from the sale. Suggestions of organizations to donate included the VA, Dialysis Centers and Catholic Charities.

During the Book sale there were a few instances of rudeness and pushing, mainly with one of the book dealers that frequent the book sales. Going forward, signs will be posted in the sale room outlining the rules of conduct within the library. If, during the sale, an incident occurs Library personnel will be requested to issue a warning and document the incident. Depending on the incident, it is possible to ban the person from the Library for a period of time. Ms. Kovach agrees with this approach. Ms. Cedrone will provide six signs for the next Adult sale.

The Children's Charity Book Sale set-up is Dec 12 with sale dates on Dec 13 and 14, Additionally, Adult Holiday books will be sold at this sale. It was suggested that Churchville Elementary School takes gently used books and may be an option for remaining books after the Children's book sale.

The Fall Potluck Dinner and Celebration will be Monday, Nov 4, 2024 between 5pm to 8pm in the Bel Air Branch Meeting room. Contact Leslie Riden to RSVP and volunteer a dish to bring.

There being no further business, Ms. Cedrone adjourned the meeting at 7:18 pm. The next meeting of the Friends of the Library will be on Monday, November 25, 2024 at 6:00pm at The Bel Air Branch of HCPL. All friends are encouraged and welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Grandizio, Temporary Secretary