

**Friends of the South Burlington Public Library Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, October 24, 2019**

**Location:** Wheeler House

**Present:** Rita Bortz, Jan Smith, Myke Esposito, Marje Von Ohlsen, Christina Long, Frances Williams, Katherine McConnell, Eileen Forrester, Eileen Beckwith, Sally Margolis, Sue Raatikainen, Julie Decuypere, Jennifer Murray, Barbara Harrison

**Welcome:** Meeting was called to order at 9 am by President Katherine McConnell. She offered thanks to all those who participated in the recent Book Sale and its preparations.

**Officer's Reports:**

**Secretary:** Barbara's report was accepted by Katherine.

**Treasurer:** Operating: Frances' report was accepted by Katherine.  
Wheeler House: Eileen F.'s monthly and quarterly reports were accepted by Katherine.

**Library Director's Report:** Jennifer reported that the Ribbon Cutting for the road and the Ground Breaking for the Library will be Wed. Nov 13 at 11 am at the site. All are encouraged to participate.

The increased cost of the project has been accepted by the committee. The Capital Campaign has raised \$400,000 of the \$1 million needed thus far.

A UVM professor will be presenting a program on impeachment in Nov.

The intern (a retired nurse seeking new career) is working well.

Staff retreat training day will be tomorrow at Wheeler House.

Library Budget (fiscal 7/20 to 6/21) is being worked on.

Opening of new library expected in Fall 2021.

White Cane Day last week was successful.

2 Wireless CD players may be borrowed from the library.

Current lease of space in the Mall is due to end 11/2020. Talks with the Mall about continuing the lease until new library completion are promising.

Discussion of fitting and decorating the Friends' space in the new library will be deferred at this time.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Member & Community & Hospitality:** Marje reports Holiday program Dec 14 at 1 pm at City Hall

Sue reports programs on Jan 18, Feb TBA, Mar 14 at the Library. Details to follow.

**Membership:** Katherine reports 4 members joined at the book sale. An outreach will be with phone calls to former members prior to the membership drive in early 2020.

## **Upcoming Fundraising Events:**

**Cookie Walk:** Sat Nov 23, 2019 10 am to 2 pm at the Library. Eileen F. reports that Charlotte from the library has produced a poster that will be used for advertising. The large board in the outer corridor will have a joint appeal to encourage the community to select a book *and a cookie*. The entry kiosk will have a selection of cookie books and the explanation of "cookie walk" and the Book Shop will also have a display of cookie books. Donations of cookies will be accepted from 2 pm until 4 pm on Fri Nov 22.

**Advocacy and Publicity:** (Marketing) Sally offered Myke assistance with publicity as Myke will be traveling during the next few months.

**Book Shop:** It was decided to keep the Book Shop opened on both Fri and Sat from Nov through April to avoid confusion. A note will be added to signage that warns that the shop will be closed during inclement weather.

Katherine reported that the Friends are an acceptable group for High School community volunteering.

Eileen B. offered online interactive scheduling for volunteers. Those wishing to volunteer and unable to use the computer access may call a designated member who will enter for you. Adding the possibility of a second volunteer (or guest) at each slot was discussed. Covering all slots would be priority but help with sorting and restocking shelves would be helpful. Encouragement to volunteer for the bookshop will be part of the membership drive script.

## **Discussion:**

Book Sale: Sales: \$1,253.50; Raffle 73.00; 4 memberships.

Revenues down \$200/ 13% versus April 2019 sale. No book sellers attended. They usually account for \$200-300 on Friday night. Though

other events happening at the same time, difficulty finding Wheeler House or the time of the year may have played a part, a Book Shop and Sales committee is being formed to have an in depth discussion about reliance on just a handful of people.

Committee Grid deferred to next meeting.

**Next meeting** Thursday, December 5, 2019. Location Wheeler House. This will be combined November and December meeting.

Meeting closed at 10:05 am.