

# Friends of Portage Lake District Library

## Minutes

July 23, 2019

Members attending: Maria Bergstrom, Mary Fran Desrochers, Nancy Bird, Cindy Barth

1. Book Sale Update: We made \$619 on the June booksale (includes one t-shirt for \$10), which was a great outcome. We briefly discussed suggestions for the future:
  - a. we probably should make more of the laminated footprints and know where to find them (they were in the money box). Maria will check with Michael about a shelf somewhere in the library to keep Friends items like the bookends, paperwork for book sales, etc.
  - b. Cindy asked about where the books come from for the Little Free Library at the library entrance—it seemed like they were short on books. Maria will check with Michael, perhaps some of the leftover books from the book sale could be used for this purpose.
  - c. We also discussed whether the Calumet Friends of the Library might want some of our leftover books in the future. Cindy had heard they have a storage space they can use to collect books for their sale. Maria will check with them.
2. Scavenger Hunt: Saturday, August 10
  - a. Current clue sponsors: Rukkila/Negro, Swift's Hardware, The Summer Season Gallery, Otter River Outfitters, Apple Blossom Mercantile, Chickadee's, State Wide Realty. Need to check back with Armando's/The Dog House. Total sponsorship: \$450 Maria will check with Armando's/Dog House to see if they will sponsor again (they have been sponsors the past two years)
  - b. Current door prize donors: Hunan Garden, Surplus Outlet (need to check back).
    - i. Nancy will check with Surplus Outlet, Michigan Made, and Joey's.
    - ii. Maria will put out a call to the Friends list to see if people would like to donate something. We are especially looking for kid-friendly items and things with a general appeal (baked goods was one option we mentioned after last year's event)
    - iii. We can again give t-shirts as part of the prize to the winning team. Depending on the number of teams participating, we'd like to have at least 5 doorprizes and also something for the winning teams.
  - c. The Sidewalk Decal advertisement was cancelled due to the amount of time it was taking to get the design finalized. Maria was concerned that we wouldn't get it ordered in time to arrive before the event. We owe \$60 to the Print Shop for the

design evaluations they did before the project was cancelled. We will save this idea for the future and can use the basic design we came up with, just start earlier.

d. Tasks remaining:

i. Coordinate food for snack

1. Suomi will do pannukakku—they need pans (Maria will find out what size).
2. Nancy will ask Econo for a gift card donation we can use to help purchase fruit, water, juice, and gluten-free granola bars (Friends will cover the cost beyond what Econo donates)
3. Maria will check with Arthur at the Bookworm about making some scones, if that won't work we can ask for muffins from Amy J's

ii. Publicity to recruit teams

1. Nancy can contact the Keweenaw Report. Maria will check with Michael to make sure it goes out to his contacts
2. Maria already emailed teams from previous years
3. Other publicity we will try:
  - a. Maria will contact local youth groups like the Girl Scouts, Houghton Schools, Hancock Library, Keweenaw Young Professionals, MOPS, BHK, Keweenaw Family Resource Center
  - b. Posters will be ready this week, Maria will leave them in the Friends mailbox at the library for people to pick up and distribute

iii. We definitely need volunteers for the day of hunt. Maria and Nancy can be there Saturday. We will try to recruit more people from our email list, also contact local NHS groups, possibly Americorps. Set up will be Friday at 4 pm.

3. We briefly discussed Michael's idea about having a fundraising dinner held at the library. We decided in June to not try to attempt this for fall but to first do some research. We will try to contact some local organizations about similar dinners: Portage Health, Portage Community Foundation, SKY. Mary Fran suggested that if we move ahead with a dinner in 2020, we perhaps make it the one big thing we do for the year.

4. Member recruitment:

- a. Recruitment event: we had talked in May about a possible member recruitment event in the fall. We could invite people we think might be interested in helping with

Friends events and have an opportunity to share what we've been doing and also a place to sign up as interested in helping with different events throughout the year. Nancy suggested we might have two different times, once during the day for our senior Friends who don't like to drive in the evening, and once in the evening for those with jobs or who need to arrange childcare. Maria suggested a dessert/coffee event. Maria will check with Michael about dates we can reserve the community room.

- b. We might check with the library about a designated space for posting about upcoming Friends events, even a sign up sheet for volunteers?
  - c. It was suggested we might get information about the Friends to Michigan Tech's HR department to go in the welcome packets for new faculty and staff.
  - d. It was also suggested we might reach out to other groups that welcome those new to our community, like the ESL classes and International Neighbors.
5. Fall book sale: Maria will check library calendar dates for October 5, 12, or 19.
6. Next meeting: Tuesday, August 20, 6 pm