

## **Friends of the Western Sullivan Public Library**

February 21st 2025 Board Meeting Agenda

5pm at the Narrowsburg Branch

In attendance

Penelope Gharthey

Cat Scott

Megan Yelekli

Audra Everett

Kerri Willette

Meeting called to order at 5:03pm by Megan. Megan, Cat, and Penelope appeared via Zoom.

Reviewed minutes from January's meeting

### **Treasurer's Report**

Penelope provided a treasurer's report. Opening bank balance was \$21,706.29. FOL gifted children's computers to the WSPL, and \$7000 was moved to a CD with the Dime Bank. The current total of FOL assets is \$15,689.79.

### **Old Business**

#### **A. Digital Payments**

1. Megan has appointment with Paypal in March to hopefully get bank account verified.

#### **B. CD**

1. \$7000 deposited at Dime Bank in January at 4.29% interest. Megan and Penelope are signers on the account. This account is set to mature in June 20

C. Membership Committee and ideas for rejuvenation

1. Meg proposed a membership committee to review membership list, re-organize spreadsheet, and compile ideas from those submitted by Melisse and Penelope. Melisse, Kerri, Penelope, and Megan to be on this committee. Cat seconded motion to create committee. All in favor.
2. Penelope proposed more activity on social media and website regarding donations (posting the in-memory ones) and being more transparent. Membership committee should reach out monthly, via a newsletter maybe? The first task of the membership committee is to tackle the current membership spreadsheet and make it more dynamic for our needs.
3. Melisse and Penelope submitted lists of ideas for fundraising and membership rejuvenation. Membership committee to review these lists and make proposal to FOL group.

D. Narrowsburg bookshelves

1. Penelope will cut check to pay for bookshelves for Narrowsburg library.

E. Firehouse Book Sale

1. Penelope suggested that we may not have been properly paying the Jeff Firehouse for use of space. A check for \$100 was donated for 2024 sale, however we believe that the usual space cost is \$150. Since the annual firehouse sale will not be taking place. Megan suggested a check to be sent to the Jeff Firehouse in the amount of \$100 as a thank you for all the years of using their space. Penelope seconded this motion. All in favor. Penelope will cut a check, and Meg will write a letter.

#### A. Donations

1. There were three new donations totalling \$750 deposited in February. Another donation was received for \$200. Megan will continue to write personalized thank-you notes. Megan and Penelope will review donations and who still needs letters.

#### B. Benevity

1. submitted a request to have access/ownership of our existing Cause account to set up profile. This is attached to Benevity. Megan is waiting for response from Benevity regarding reclaiming the account. Kerri made a donation through Benevity; we will use this as a test case when setting up the account.

#### C. Grant opportunities

1. Ciera was going to present today but had a conflict with schedule. She will present in March meeting.
2. Kerri provided information on local grant information
  - a) Foundation for Rural Services is a community based grant; any organization might be eligible. Awarded in Nov - application due in Spring. These are tech based grants, for upgrades or programs.
  - b) T-Mobile has a hometown grant, which includes a building enhancement grant. Money is awarded quarterly, accepting applications for Jan-March, April-June, Oct-Sept - up to 50k per town.
  - c) Sullivan 180 signage grants. This grant offers between \$500 and 5k. This might require money matching, or extra funding to support events
  - d) Penguin Randomhouse UNITED FOR LIBRARIES Grant. This gives money to rural and small libraries. We missed this year's deadline. Noted to look into this next year.

- e) Kerri will spearhead the grants and write for any grants chosen. The library won't have numbers until Summer; Meg and Kerri to touch base

#### F. Banners

1. Meg presented ideas and costs for replacing banners and signage for FOL. It was decided that the prices presented were not ideal. Meg will look more and come back next month with new ideas. Megan motioned to table this to March. Cat seconded. All in favor.

#### Set Date/Location for the March Meeting

Next meeting will be March 26th in Jeff at 5pm.

#### Adjournment

Megan makes motion to adjourn meeting. Cat seconded. All in favor. Meeting Adjourned at 6:35pm.