

Friends of Dover Free Library Meeting Wednesday, May 14th, 2008 in the DFL Community Room

Present: Judy LaFiura, Pat Bowen, Angela Power, Judy Overton-Jones, Meredith Anton, Carol Lucas, Valerie Kaufman, Cindy Hubert, Barbara Gillott, Marcy McElroy, Judy Jones, Patti Buck

Welcome: DFL newly-elected Trustee, Cindy Hubert was welcomed and introduced.

Minutes: The minutes of the April 9th meeting were accepted.

Financial Report: Treasurer Pat Bowen reported that as of April 14th the Friends' account balance is \$3,695.64. A break down will be presented at next month's meeting.

Volunteer Report:

A. Recruitment: John was not present and no report was given. Most present agreed that while registered Friends are not interested in or able to attend meetings, they will help when called upon to do so. A telephone tree was suggested so that Friends with specific volunteer interests, *i.e.*, Dover Day book sale, Dessert Social, may be contacted.

B. Volunteer Appreciation Day- All Friends agreed that this event on April 14th was a success and very nicely presented. A thank you note to the staff will be forthcoming.

Events and Programs:

A. August Dance- Judy L. explained that after our April meeting Lisa invited her, Marcy, Valerie, Ray Warren and Michael Rodriquez to her house to discuss the prospect of the proposed August 2nd dance. Of concern was the limited number of active Friends who would be working on two important fundraisers simultaneously, since the Dessert Social will be on August 7th. In addition, a band concert for the Blueberry Festival is scheduled for the same evening as the dance. Since the FoDFL had neither discussed the specifics about the dance, nor voted upon sponsoring and working on the dance at our April Meeting, Judy felt it imperative to do so at our May meeting. At the meeting, hosted by Lisa Coneeny, Judy and Marcy had requested Michael and Ray to allow the FoDFL to do so, and Michael and Ray had agreed to wait until May 14th for a commitment for the FoDFL. On April 20th, in an email from Lisa Coneeny, the Chair and Board of Directors of the FoDFL were informed "that Michael Rodriquez and Ray Warren have decided to move ahead with the July lessons and August 2nd dance at the Town Hall, but they will be doing the event to benefit Deerfield Valley Community Cares." At some future time, the FoDFL may discuss sponsoring a fundraising dance event.

B. Dessert Social- Although Connie Wisse, Chair of the DS was not present, two sign up sheets were circulated to solicit volunteers for this event, one for specific tasks related to organization and one for inn-contact and dessert requests. Further discussion of details concerning this event will take place at the June meeting. Emailing inns about the DS was suggested as a way to make contact and promote the event. Both the DFL and Chamber of Commerce websites might be added so that inn keepers can inform their guests about what is going on in the Valley. This discussion led to the need for a calendar of events, particularly for the summer months so that the community knows what the Library is offering. To this end, the DFL staff, including the Children's Library, will be asked to submit information about events and dates for Pat Bowen to include in the calendar which will be distributed in June.

C. Garden Lectures- Coordinator of this series, Judy Overton-Jones, explained the three lectures are on the calendar- one tonight with Chris Keefe who will speak about the use of rocks in your garden, Karen Wheeler will speak at Newfane Nursery on Wednesday, June 18th and Chris Darrow will discuss daylilies at Olalle Farm on July 16th; each will take place at 5:30 P.M. While not all events need raise money, a prominently displayed donation box, plus verbal donation requests, were endorsed for these events. It was suggested also that attendees at these lectures might be asked what they would like to hear at future garden talks and if they would be interested in volunteering in the Children's Garden. Carol suggested that all event speakers should, as part of our nonprofit status, be offered a tax deductible statement.

D. Festival of Trees and Wreaths- Event coordinator, Judy Overton-Jones, asked Friends to collect items, *i.e.*, pine cones, ribbons, ornaments-- that can be used in the wreath/tree-making. As storage space is limited, she asks that for now such materials be kept at individual homes. Hosts for workshops are needed so that work can begin on items. Co-chair, Carol Lucas, suggested that dates for this event be scheduled now. To this end, the following was decided: Wed., November 19th will be the event kick-off with the final auction taking place Wed., December 3rd.

Other Business:

A. Children's Garden- Co-Chair, Meredith Anton, explained that she and Amiee Pritcher have spent time in the garden assessing its needs. Amiee will begin to choose plants and Meredith will plant and maintain them. While Mary Jane Williams, the garden's originator, devised a design and oversaw its maintenance, Amiee and Meredith view the garden as "evolving" and have asked that they make a few changes regarding the original plan and oversight. As much as possible Meredith would like to involve children in the garden. To this end she has placed a basket at the Dover Elementary School to ask students the titles of their favorite books. She envisions a few story book scenes displayed in the garden. Friends offered such suggestions as: rock painting, allowing kids to put in a few plants, perhaps vegetables which might be cooked and shared. Both Meredith and Amiee are open to ideas.

B. Garden Shed- The spending of money made by the Friends was once again discussed. While there is no urgency regarding the purchase of a shed, the various ones researched by Judy Jones and Barbara Gillott were discussed. When John returns both the shed type and placement for the cement pad will be determined and a purchase made. As part of the 501c3 status the tax number for this item and any others related to purchases made by FoDFL should be taken into account.

C. Fundraising-

1. A committee chair and members are needed to discuss and establish specific FoDFL fundraising goals.
2. Suggestions to date include a "Parents Night Out" and grant-writing.
3. Fundraising event that require advance planning of a year or more need to be targeted and designated as soon as possible.

D. Meeting Time- All agreed that the new 9:30 meeting time works well.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:20 A.M. The next meeting will take place on Wed., June 11th at 9:30 A.M. in the DFL Community Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Patti Buck
FoDFL Secretary

