**MINUTES Via Zoom for FOBSPL Thursday 1/19/23**

**Friends of the Ballston Spa Public Library**

**Annual Meeting**

**In attendance: Christine Fitzpatrick, Danielle Thomson, Andrea Simmons, Lori Acee, Meredith Tower, Mandy Rider.**

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS and attendees Trudy Castello and Nate Green**

**From the President:** Christine Fitzpatrick reported on activities and accomplishments of the past year:

We reworked and revived Friends of the Library in Sept 2022, after the resignation of the former president. We have drafted new bylaws. As required, we reviewed them and have given 30 days’ notice regarding these changes.

We now have a duly elected Board of Trustees (see motions).

We have balanced the finances and have three signatories for banking transactions.

As a 501 (c) 3 not-for profit, we voted to act as support for all donations after Dec 2022 for the Library Capital Campaign.

Lori Acee, Andy Manion, Andrea Simmons and other community members were instrumental in applying-for and gaining the $100,000 donation awarded to us by the Alfred Solomon Charitable Trust.

We offered numerous successful programs in 2022: Fall Foraging with Anne Best; A Book Sale at the Car Show; The Kick-off Event for the Library Capital Campaign; Winter Songs and Stories Event with Dan Berggren.

We are attempting to expand our FOL membership through informational brochures and personal contacts. An updated Library webpage now has a link to the FOL and Lori is working with a contact at SALS to create a dedicated button on the website specific to the Capital Campaign, which allows donation payment through PayPal and Venmo. The PayPal button is now active.

An appeal letter was sent out after the Holidays and numerous contributions have been received. Each donor has received a hand-written note of appreciation. We will be recognizing all donors on the website unless requested otherwise. Donations made from the website button will be responded to by Meredith and a form is being generated for this purpose.

**Report from the Treasurer** Meredith Tower

The checking account is active. See Meredith’s report attached.

**Membership New and Renewal.** This is the beginning of our membership year, so we will all be renewing our memberships and hopefully gain new members. Member contributions are as follows: $5 for an Individual; $10 for a Family; $25 for a Business/professional organization; $3 for a junior member.

Membership dues are used to support programming.

**Meredith provided the updated FOL membership brochure.**

**Adoption of Minutes** from December 15th, 2022, meeting

Motion by Meredith

Seconded by Danielle

**Elections of the Board of Directors,** as required at the Annual Meeting. The Bylaws contain “job descriptions” for the board positions. Any member can nominate themselves or be nominated for any position at the meeting. The following individuals have indicated their willingness to serve in 2023. All meeting participants have expressed interest in re-joining and may vote on the elections following:

* President – Christine Fitzpatrick

Nominated by Danielle. All in favor

* Vice- President - Danielle Thomson

Nominated by Mandy. All in favor

* Treasurer – Meredith Tower

Nominated by Mandy. All in favor

* Member Representative – Pat Burnham

Nominated by Danielle. All in favor

* Member Representative-Mandy Rider.

Nominated by Meredith. All in favor

* Member Representative- Mr. Castello

Nominated by Mr. Castello. All in favor

\*Secretarial duties will be shared until a secretary is elected

**Review of Bylaws.** The draft was attached to outgoing emails prior to the meeting for preview. They will be sent to our new members Nate Green and Trudy Castello and we will vote on the final draft at our February meeting.

**Upcoming Programs and New Event Ideas for 2023**

* Cemetery committee is opening a time capsule from the Mexican War era in October 2023. *Christine and Mandy volunteered to help.*
* Some vacation week library programs for school kids: Every Weds is Storytime. Andrea has an upcoming computer coding workshop during Feb. break. Additional ongoing ideas are requested.
* Contact Winston Grady Willis re Black History month for a possible program (Lori)
* Contact Ballets of Ballet Harden who have a program regarding an ancestor who is a well-known artist.
* Live Auction Event of donated items-Danielle can organize a presentation. Christine, Danielle and Jim will reach out to BSBPA to propose a plan which may include their cooperation.
* Spring Foraging: Ann Best is committed.

**Meeting adjourned.**

Motion of Mandy and Seconded by Meredith.

**Next meeting Feb 16th at 6pm**