

**Minutes of a meeting of the
FRIENDS OF CANAAN TOWN LIBRARY
September 13, 2010
Canaan Town Library, Canaan, NH**

Present: Barbara Bickel, Pat Danielson, Sharry bKeller, Nancy Loomis, Cindy Neily, Susan Quinlan, Amy Thurber, Karen Wolk

President Susan Quinlan called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

The minutes of the June 12, 2010 were reviewed and were unanimously accepted as corrected.

Report of the Treasurer:

Checking account balance is \$3634.15, which includes the \$1413.06 from the CD that matured in August.

Recent bill is \$325.00 for the reworking of the bike rack provided by Matt Dow. This solution to the bike rack question produced a sturdy, durable rack at a cost slightly less than any racks we found from other sources.

Report from Library trustees representative – Cindy Neily:

Library renovation: The next renovation decision to be made at the next Library Trustees meeting is whether to use carpet or refinish the existing floor in the main part of the library. Cost for either is comparable, but refinishing takes longer. Susan asked if consideration of which method uses any or more toxic materials is part of the decision-making regarding the flooring. The answer is that carpet options are limited to durable products and refinishing uses toxic chemicals, but care will be used in limiting possible exposure to toxic chemicals.

The library staff hopes to keep the library open during the eight weeks required for renovation of the middle section. The books will be removed to storage containers accessible only to the staff, who will retrieve books upon request. In this way the public will still have access to library materials, albeit in a less timely fashion. MTD can donate one day for moving books. Amy is investigating bids for completing the moving as she feels the task requires more than the one day MTD can provide.

The design for the new charge desk is completed. Additional funds are needed to construct the desired plan on site. The trustees will seek a special grant for this purpose.

It was noted that volunteer architect Chris Wadsworth has offered excellent and much needed consultation for the renovation project. His expertise is truly appreciated. Cindy shared a letter from a library patron who commended the services offered by the library staff this summer in spite of all the construction mess and disruption.

Report of the Librarian, Amy Thurber:

The library staff is compiling their suggestions for the flooring to be given to the trustees. Amy obtained a copy of the annual appeal letter from the Tracy Memorial Library Friends as an example potentially helpful for our fund raising efforts.

Amy presented her "wish list", but began with a list of the many things the Friends have already given to the library. We noted and discussed many items, most notably art for the library walls that includes a comprehensive plan for on-going acquisitions, possible revolving shows featuring local artists, and a flexible hanging system to accommodate different and changing pieces of art.

Also the indoor plants need refurbishing, watering and hopefully consolidation. There was discussion of how we might provide continuous fresh flowers on the new circulation

desk. Perhaps Safflowers would give the Friends a discount and we would have a place card noting the safflower contribution as well as that of the Friends – helpful publicity for both.

Three additional computers are desired to add to the current three. The best arrangement is to reorganize the computer table from a long strip down the center of the room to a special, perhaps round, table holding all six. Additional laptops would be helpful, but will not replace the wired computers.

Also on the list is a CD cleaning machine.

Amy will prioritize the entire list and put some prices to the various items. The Friends hope to fill as many requests as possible.

Draperies:

Eight windows in the library need curtains that can be drawn against the sunlight. Three additional windows can do with a valence. Samples and prices from Country Curtains were reviewed and after some discussion a toile pattern in green was selected for tab curtains, custom made 120” long, 82” wide for the pair, \$140.00 a pair. The same toile pattern but in blue was selected for the three valences at \$24.00 each. The total cost (without shipping) is \$1200.00, which is within the curtain budget previously authorized.

Pat made a motion, seconded by Sharry to purchase the three valences now. The motion passed unanimously.

Note that since the valences are not special order and therefore returnable, we can see how the pattern looks and if satisfactory, we can order the curtains, which are not returnable. Pat will order the valences from Country Curtains.

Garden update:

Nancy would like to plant enough bulbs this fall to make a nice showing in the spring. Amy has some bulbs to donate.

Barbara made a motion, seconded by Pat to authorize purchase of bulbs at a cost of no more than \$150.00. The motion passed unanimously.

Nancy will organize the bulb planting and some reorganizing of existing plants, especially to give the hostas more shade, around the arrival of her second grandchild. Nancy’s holding garden at her home is coming along, but needs rototilling. Once this is done, Nancy needs help with moving plants. She was requested to let Friends know when she is ready to move plants.

The new trees need watering through Oct. A watering schedule was set up.

There was discussion on how to protect the new trees, especially the elm, from the snow plow. We will put up reflectors and hardware cloth around the elm and a snow fence around the arbor vitae. Estimated cost \$20.00.

Spelling Bee:

Sharry will attend the Laconia spelling bee on October 22. It was decided to try and hold our spelling bee in March or early April (as an antidote to mud season.) Sharry will investigate availability and cost of possible venues including the elementary school, Enfield Community Center and the Methodist Church. We need a better estimate of our costs before we set the team entrance fee. We would like to have this be a fund raiser as well as a fun event for the community. Sharry noted that the Laconia bee has grown over the years to be very popular and financially successful.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:40p.m. Respectfully submitted by Karen Wolk, Secretary