

Friends of the Kennebunk Free Library
January 8, 2018

Welcome & Introduction: Michelle is now the new library director. Everyone was pleased with this decision.

Attendance: Joan Carroll, Michelle Connors, Donna Gomez, DD Harrington, Peg Nelson, Deb Redding-Sampson, Julie Ottomano (recorder), Leo Lamoureux, Claudette Shepard

Minutes from November 13, 2017 were accepted as distributed.

Old Business:

- a. Holiday Raffle results: raised \$77. Deb will send a thank you to Cindy, Michelle's mom.
- b. Book Room volunteers: Group sorting moved to Jan. 9, 1pm due to the snowstorm last week. We need to resend the guidelines regarding donations. There were many donations that were moldy and water damaged. There may be another sorting day before the book sale.

New Business:

- a. Salvation Army pick-up- There was some confusion with the last SA pick up. They took some of the books that were not designated for them and left some that we wanted them to take.
- b. Goals and schedule setting for 2018:
 - 1. A better way to dispose of unwanted books**

Michelle is suggesting we look into Better World Books as an alternative. They will give us boxes, labels and will pay for UPS shipping. In addition, we will receive a small amount of the selling price for the books. They will basically take anything we would sell at the book sale plus textbooks up to 10 years old. Michelle will manage communications with them.
 - 2. To learn how other Friends groups attract members and raise funds**

Donna and Peg will reach out to other Friend's groups to see what they are doing. Specifically ask them: How do they build their memberships? What fundraising are they doing? What are their strengths and strategies? Michelle will assist by posting questions through the Director listserv.
 - 3. To increase our membership through community resources**

Joan and DD are going to brainstorm ideas to attract summer residents to become friends, how to use the Chamber of Commerce to attract friends, and possibly reach out to local businesses.
- c. Membership mailing: 95 letters sent; 27 rejoined for 2018. Deb asked what the number was this time last year. Michelle will get back to us about this.
- d. Winterfest Book Sale (Feb 3) planning: a sign-up sheet was passed around. Additional help sorting and on the day before and of the sale is always needed.

