

FRIENDS' REPORT TO TRUSTEES

Friends of the Catskill Public Library and Palenville Branch, Inc.

September 18, 2024

Highlights of September 10, 2024 Friends' Meeting

The September 10, 2024 Board Meeting of the Friends Group was held by Google Meet. The meeting focused on details of the Membership drive, the upcoming Afternoon of Enchantment event, Author Talks, Free Little Library Project in collaboration with Rotary and preliminary discussion about next events - Book Swap and Mingle and potential Author's Event.

Treasurer's Report

Total balance effective 9.9.24 = \$ 3, 814.35.

Paypal and Square have been established and are in use. PayPal is active on Membership Forms via QR code and is "live" on the Friends section of the library website, www.catskillpubliclibrary.org/friends-of-the-library. Square is loaded on 2 devices so Membership payment may be received at events.

Director's and Officers Policy quote was received from Marshall Sterling and Board Members responded via proxy to proceed with acquisition of this policy. Liability insurance and event coverage was obtained (\$250). Director's and Officers Insurance (\$575) will be obtained in the near future as more revenue is generated.

The IRS Form EZ 1023 has been completed and reviewed by attorney for submission.

Membership Drive and Status

Total Current Memberships = 21 This includes READER (4) AUTHOR (8) EDITOR (5) PUBLISHER (0) ARISTOCAT (4). (effective 9/10/24, there was an uptick from Enchantment event.)

Membership swag is still under development and we are working with a local artist for design.

There were three recent occasions for "tabling" and Member acquisition which included the Farmer's Market in collaboration with the library (8/25), Circle W in Palenville (8/30) First Friday in Catskill (9/6). Each occasion was successful in promoting the Friends in support of the library.

There are upcoming opportunities for Membership acquisition which include future tabling events, promotional materials at Circulation Desks at Libraries, Mailings, and promotion at library and upcoming Friends events.

Afternoon of Enchantment: September 15, 2024 Dutchman's Landing 2-4 PM

The Afternoon of Enchantment took place on September 15, 2024 from 2-4 PM at Dutchman's Landing. The event was a complete success and was well attended by the Catskill and Palenville communities (guesstimate 250) and was a full throttle effort to engage the community in a fun and frolicking way, promoting love of the library and the Friends. See photo collage from the event..

Tremendous gratitude is extended to the Catskill Community Center (grant), our sponsors, the Library Trustees, and the Library Director and staff who were with us the entire way!

Board members and Volunteers stepped up in preparation for this event and on the day of the event with many skills fully utilized (poster design, juggling, radio presentation and press releases, balloon transporting, painting little library, and much more. Gratitude is also extended to Mindy Leek of the Friends Board who served as Event Coordinator. She's masterful!

Thanks again to Trustee Mike M, for pursuing an alternative location in case of rain. Thankfully it was an *exceptionally sunny, enchanting afternoon.*

As all good things come from good things... the Friends and the Library have been invited to collaborate with Rotary in a Free Little Library Project. The first one was beautifully painted at the event by the community and will be placed on Main Street (near Citiot) in Catskill. More to come for further placement in the surrounding school district community.

Additionally, the Friends have been asked to participate in the Solstice event in December.

Joy will be meeting with the Columbia Greene Community College President and Librarian to discuss further college student involvement with the Friends of the Library.

Upcoming Events and Activities

Farmer's Market with the Library - 4th Sunday of the Month- two more to go, 9/29 & 10/27

Presentation to the Rotary Club - August 27, 2024 (completed)

Book Swap and Mingle TBD

Author's Event TBD

Annual Meeting - in combination with Event

*NYLA Conference: Hope to attend a workshop or two specifically planned for Friends Groups.

Next Friends Meeting: Second Tuesday of Month, October 8, 2024, 6PM at 1 Franklin Street or by Google Meet.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joy DeVita

Friends of the Catskill Public Library and Palenville Branch, Inc.