

Approved 01/20/2022
FRIENDS OF EPLS KEYSTONE
Meeting Minutes (Draft 2)
Friday, December 17, 2021, 9:30 a.m.
Michelle's Café
548 N. Center St., Lagrange, OH 44050

Members Present

Patti Baker; Kathy Burrer; Pauline Chaffin; Linda Chapin; Marcia DeJonge; Eileen French; Sylvia Hack; Barbara Harper; Mary Karleskint; Cindy Klinect; Debby Krejsa (Keystone Branch Manager); Sue Lewis; Aaron McElwain; Sandra McElwain; Marilyn Offenber; Jeff Ostron (guest); Kathy Runser (Deputy Director, EPLS); Marianne Sommerfelt; Jennifer Starkey (Director, EPLS); Iris Tewksbury; Wendi Zwaduk

CALL TO ORDER

Aaron McElwain, President, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Approval of Minutes from October 21, 2021 Meeting – Mary Karleskint, Secretary

Wendi Zwaduk motioned to approve the October 21, 2021 minutes. Kathy Burrer seconded the motion. Vote on the Motion: Unanimous Approval.

Posting of Minutes on EPLS Website – Mary Karleskint

Mary Karleskint reported that since Adam Matthews (Marketing and Communications Director, EPLS) left EPLS for a new job, minutes from the Friends of the Keystone Branch meetings have not been posted on EPLS website since February of 2021. M. Karleskint will reach out again to Jennifer Harmon (Marketing and Program Manager, EPLS) in regards to the posting of our Friends minutes.

REPORTS

President's Report – Aaron McElwain

Status of Charter License Renewal – We will look at the charter license renewal process this coming new year.

Status of Membership Tree – Aaron is making some progress with the membership tree. However; the laser went down. Also, his business has been very busy this time of year. Once the tree trunk is done, we will move forward in getting the leaves up. The Friends will get together and hang the leaves on the membership tree.

At this time in the meeting, Aaron read a Christmas card from George Klocek thanking the Friends for the Library picnic table and bird feeder in memory of his late wife Mary Rose, a member of the Friends of the EPLS Keystone Branch.

Treasurer's Report – Iris Tewksbury

Iris reported that the treasury balance at the end of November 2021 was \$30,428.01. The Friends Fall Book Sale revenue resulted in \$7,302.55. Aaron thanked the Friends who worked the book sale.

Membership Report – Wendi Zwaduk

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Wendi reported that as of today we have 15 Lifetime Members, 30 Yearly Members, and 9 Corporate Members (2 which are Lifetime). We have a total of 52 Members.

Sunshine Committee Report – Linda Chapin

Linda thanked the Friends for sending her a get well arrangement and cards. She appreciates all of the Friends. Wendi mentioned that a get-well card was sent to Theresa Henderson.

EPLS Director's Report – Jennifer Starkey

Jennifer Starkey, the new EPLS Director, greeted the Friends and thanked them for inviting her to the breakfast meeting. This is her third week as EPLS Director, and she is happy to be here. She is getting to know the staff and has met some of the community partners.

Committee for Election of Officers for 2022 Report – Cindy Klinect

Cindy Klinect (Committee Chair) reported that the committee is still in need of a Friend to fill the position of Vice President. Otherwise, we are all set with the officers for 2022. Cindy explained the responsibilities of the Vice President position. If any Friend is interested in being Vice President, please contact committee members Cindy Klinect, Sue Lewis or Marianne Sommerfelt.

OLD BUSINESS

Feedback on LaGrange's "Trunk-or-Treat" Event

The LaGrange United Methodist Church "Trunk-or-Treat" Event was cancelled due to poor weather conditions.

Feedback on 2021 Fall Book Sale

Wendi shared feedback from a follow up meeting with the committee members. The book sale was awesome. We raised a total of \$7,302.55 from the book sale, \$160.50 in donations, and \$212 in the quilt raffle (which went well). Some suggestions for future book sales were as follows: advertising in the Chronicle Telegram is the best for promotion of the event; providing music during the book sale would be nice; and breaking down some of the author sections further would be helpful. Thank-you cards were sent out to volunteers (for donating time with set up, tear down, and moving out remaining items); to Lagrange Hardware and Rental (for donating tables for the sale) and to Eric Stover (for picking up book sale items that were left over). We now have zero items in book storage. Book collection and sorting will be suspended until March 1, 2022.

Feedback on EPLS Keystone Branch Tree Lighting Event in December

Wendi reported on the results of the Tree-Lighting Event held at the Keystone Branch on December 2, 2021. Wendi, Cindy, and Eileen decorated the tree and the flagpole walkway. The Friends donated water bottles and cookies. The tree-lighting was posted live, and made into an event, on Facebook. A thank you was sent to "Believe, Dream and Dare" thanking them for providing a live Disney Princess Elsa from the book and movie "Frozen" (which was delightful for the children).

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Books and Brunch Spring 2022 (Saturday, April 23, 2022) – Wendi Zwaduk

Wendi, Event Chair, stressed the importance of securing committee chair volunteers for publicity, menu/food, and decorating. We need to get this committee started as soon as possible. Aaron mentioned that he still has the documentation from the Health Department from the previous event that was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Advertising for the Keystone Library Branch – Facebook Page – Wendi Zwaduk

Wendi reported that the month of November focused on advertising the Fall Book Sale and Friends of the Library. The month of December focused on the Tree-Lighting Event.

At this time in the meeting, the Friends presented Aaron with a gift thanking him for his work as President of Friends of the EPLS Keystone Branch.

NEW BUSINESS

Reading Statistics

Aaron shared with the Friends some surprising statistics he came across recently on young adult reading. The statistics showed that 40-50% of college graduates do not pick up a book, and 60% of high school graduates do not continue reading. The library and its resources are so important to the community. The work of the Friends in promoting reading is of utmost importance.

Keystone Branch Kudos

Keystone Branch Manager, Debby Krejsa, reported that, according to monthly reports, the Keystone Branch is the third highest circulating branch in the Elyria Public Library System.

ADJOURNMENT

Kathy Burrer motioned to adjourn the meeting. Wendi Zwaduk seconded the motion. Vote on the motion: Unanimous Approval. Aaron McElwain, President, adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Karleskint, Secretary 12/20/2021