Friends’ of Cheboygan Area Public Library

100 S Bailey Street
Cheboygan 49721
231-627-2381

September 2021
cheboyganlibrary.org

June 8, 2021

Call to Order: Executive President Rosita White opened the meeting at 1:06 pm.

Attendance: Leslie Carmin, Sue Johnson, Mali Thomas, Pat Hubbard, Mary Ellen Sheridan, Rosita White, Gwen Kuehn, Jeanette Mateer, Emily Clare, and Mark Bronson.

Minutes: The April Minutes were approved as printed in the May Newsletter, with the support of Gwen Kuehn and Mary Ellen Sheridan.

Treasurer’s Report: Gwen distributed an annual report as well as one for April and May, updated from the last meeting’s report.

Membership/Newsletter: Jeanette Mateer reported our database contains 72 names. We have 31 life members, and 41 annual members, 21 of whom have paid for 2021. Newsletters and renewal notices are sent to folks who have paid in the past 3 years.

A Newsletter is sent out prior to a scheduled meeting and contains the previous meeting minutes. Jeanette invited members to submit articles about books enjoyed or libraries visited. We also discussed having staff share books they’ve enjoyed or that are new to the library collection.

Book Nook: Discussion centered around retaining the book carts which were implemented during the pandemic. This did provide a revenue source when the Book Nook was closed, the Book Nook will resume its normal sale days and hours beginning July 6. The Book Nook will be open every Tuesday and Saturday from 10:30 am to 2:00 pm. The carts will be discontinued but re-evaluated in the Fall. Library staff will be asked to share any comments from patrons once the carts are removed. One issue is that the Library only recently began accepting donations again and the Book Nook shelves are unusually empty. Other issues include the manpower to keep the carts stocked and to not detract from sales in the Book Nook itself.

Director’s Report: The library is returning to normal hours following July 4th. Doors are open and meetings can be held downstairs. Furniture is in the process of being replaced. New seating upstairs will have surfaces that can be wiped down and the narrow tables in Room A have been replaced.

Mark is working with the Intermediate School District on the Maker’s Space (Room B). Because of the technical nature of the equipment in the room, training and monitoring will need to be considered. Funding for the equipment is possible because of the bequest from Linda Neuss and gifts from the Jahn family.

Sam King is the newest member of the Library Board with two more openings to be filled by townships later this month.

Library Programs/Publicity: Emily Clare discussed the Business Expo in Washington Park June 17, from 1-6 pm. Several Friends volunteered to assist.

The Oz theme in the Children’s Garden is being updated with Nancy, the Children’s Librarian, figuring how to add items that won’t easily disappear.

Emily is working on a tri-fold brochure to replace the business cards currently used by the Friends. Rosita will help with content. Leslie, Sue, Mali and Mary Ellen will work with Emily on ideas to increase membership.

Printing 1,000 brochures will cost $289 at Straits Area Printing. Leslie Carmin and Jeanette supported the motion, which was approved.

Old business: Those present voted unanimously to accept the new language in our Bylaws as stated in the minutes of the April meeting. This action now goes to the Library Board for their approval. Gwen volunteered to update the bylaws with the new language.

New Business: The County Fair will be held the week of August 9th. Once again, Friends will offer a free book to each child who visits our display on Family Fun Day. Emily will help transport books and signage but Friends will man this Gift of Reading project. (Leslie Carmin and Jeanette Mateer, 10-12; Sue Johnson and Rosita White, 12-2). Friends will also have a Gift of Reading book distribution during Santa’s visit, tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, December 1.

Rosita reviewed the Annual Report which will also be printed in the August newsletter.

Leslie Carmin and Sue Johnson volunteered to be co-presidents of the Friends for the next two years. We are all grateful for their willingness to serve and will work together to make the organization successful.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20.

Jeanette Mateer

Next meeting
Tuesday, September 14
At library with masks
Membership

There are 72 total members, which includes 31 grandfathered Lifetime Members. 41 are Annual Members. At this time, 21 Annual Members have renewed their membership. Annual Membership donations amounted to $2,560.00. Donations from Lifetime Members were $1,760.00. The Membership donations totaled $4,320.00.

Activities

Book Nook

Gwen Kuehn is the manager/coordinator of the Friends’ Book Nook. We appreciate her many hours of service to keep the Book Nook running smoothly. There are 16 members on the Book Nook Volunteer list and scheduling is accomplished primarily through e-mail. Sign up sheets are also posted in the Book Nook. Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Book Nook was closed in March, 2020. When the main level of the Library reopened in July, Book Nook Sale Carts were set up offering our used books at a reduced price. Emily Clare assisted Gwen with restocking the “Book Carts”. On May 4, 2021 the Book Nook reopened on the lower level on Saturdays from 10:30-2:30. The “Book Cart” sales continued on the main level with pricing for books the same as in the Book Nook. Book sales from July, 2020 through May, 2021 totaled $1,148.25. The Book Cart sales accounted for $1,089.50 of the total.

Gift of Reading

Because of the Covid-19 Pandemic, the in-person Gift of Reading programs had to be cancelled. A $300 donation was made to the Bishop Baraga Library to help replace storm damaged books.

Library Programs Supported by the Friends

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Contribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OverDrive Digital Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flipster (Digital Magazines)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children’s Summer Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bishop Baraga Library Contribution</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,900.00</strong></td>
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Coming Events

Looking ahead, there are several upcoming programs taking place at the Library in September. First, there will be a Room Renaming Ceremony in Honor of Linda Widrig Neuss on September 9 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Refreshments will be served, and the Cheboygan Area Chamber of Commerce will be performing a ribbon cutting at 11:15 a.m. to commemorate the event. This event is free to attend and open to the public.

George Robson, whose parents survived the 1927 Bath School House Disaster will be presenting a personal and historical perspective of the event, which to this day, remains America’s deadliest school massacre. This presentation will take place on September 16 at 6 p.m. at the Cheboygan Area Public Library. It is free to attend and open to the community.

Also in September, Lori Cleland will be offering “A Celebration of Michigan in Song and Photography” on September 28 at 6 p.m. at the Cheboygan Area Public Library. Lori will share her musical talents on the banjo, guitar, and ukulele while preforming original and contemporary folk-style songs. Lori will also be sharing some of her original photography that portrays the beauty of Michigan. This event is free and open to the public.

The Cheboygan Area Public Library will also be offering a four-week (8-hour) photography course about basic digital photography. This course will be taught by local photographer Dan Welihan. Each class builds on knowledge from previous classes. The course fee is $35 per participant and sign-up is required. Class dates are September 13, 20, 27, and October 4 from 6-8 p.m. To sign up, call or stop in at the Library at 627-2381 or 100 S. Bailey Street.
The legacy of Linda Widrig Neuss, a resident of Mullet Lake who passed away September 9, 2019, after a long battle with acute myeloid leukemia (AML), is being honored for her generous donation bequeathed to the Cheboygan Area Public Library by the renaming of the Library’s main meeting room.

Meeting Room A, which is located on the lower level of the Library, will become known as the Linda Widrig Neuss Community Room. As this room serves as a collaborative meeting place for community groups and clubs, the Cheboygan Area Public Library’s Board of Trustees felt it was an appropriate way to honor her memory as a civic advocate and for her generous donation that assists in the mission of the Cheboygan Library to serve the community which she loved.

A celebration of Linda’s life and her contributions to the community will take place in the newly christened Linda Widrig Neuss Community Room at the Cheboygan Area Public Library on September 9 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A short ceremony and a ribbon cutting with the Cheboygan Chamber of Commerce will be followed by refreshments. The community is invited to join the family and Library staff in honoring Linda and her community work.

Linda gave much of her time to her community and served as a leader for various organizations. She was a member of the Friends of the Cheboygan Library and served a term as board president. She served as a board member on the Cheboygan Economic Development Board (CEDG) from 2011 to 2015, and board president from 2015-2017. She also volunteered for the Women’s Resource Center of Northern Michigan (WRCNM) for six years, three of which were as board president.

Linda is also credited with being instrumental in the establishment of North Central Michigan College Extension in Cheboygan through her work on the CEDG board with the partnership of the Cheboygan Community Foundation.

Linda’s bequest of $140,000 to the library was placed into the Cheboygan Area Public Library’s Foundation, which will nearly double the Foundation’s funds. The Library Foundation was established by the Library Board of Trustees in 2007 through the Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan as a means of investment funding. Per Board policy, the Library is able to utilize up to half of the interest produced by the Foundation’s investments each year for special projects, large-scale programming, and/or emergency needs.

Linda was born and raised in the Detroit area and was an alumna of the University of Michigan (under and postgraduate). She spent her professional career in operations management for legal and accounting service companies and retired in 2013 from her position as the U.S. Director of Professional Services for Ernst & Young.

Linda spent the summers of her youth vacationing on Mullet Lake with her family and made it her year-round home prior to retiring.
Books Discussed

Stacey Abrams...... *Our Time Is Now: Power, Purpose and a Fight for a Fair America*
Jojo Moyes.......... *The Giver of Stars*
Robert Kolker......... *Hidden Valley Road: Inside the Mind of an American Family*
Jane Pauley.......... *Skywriting: A Life Out of the Blue*

Treasurer’s Report April-May 2021

Beginning Balance ............................... $5,976.51

Income

Book Nook
April .................................................................. $90.00
May ..................................................................... $196.75

Membership
May ..................................................................... $790.00

Life Member Donations
May ..................................................................... $675.00

Other Donations
May ..................................................................... $40.00

Expenses

Postage & Envelopes ........................................ $575.2
FOML Renewal .................................................... $45.00

Ending Balance .................................................. $7,665.74