

**FRIENDS OF THE BEL AIR LIBRARY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MONDAY February 26,2024 6:00PM**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Present: Annie Kovach, Amy Cedrone, Luvenia Woodward, Dawn Grandizio, Pat Easter, Leslie and Cliff Riden, Cheryl DeScipio, Carole Conrad, and Diane McGowan.

Ms. Cedrone commenced the meeting at 6:01. The January 22, 2023 minutes were approved by all. Ms. Cedrone, in Marie Kridenoff's absence, presented the Treasurer's Report as follows:

a/o 1/13/2024: Checking Account balance: \$5,301.11 Savings Account balance: \$11,197.76

a/o 2/15/2024: Checking Account balance: \$5,301.11 Savings Account balance: \$11,197.76

Mrs. Kridenoff was able to combine the Friends' three CD's into one account rather than having them all mature on different dates. The total amount is \$7,670.91, earning 4.66%, and maturing on 10/15/24.

**LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE:** The annual giving campaign has brought in \$12,550 as of January 23. The foundation is hoping to bring in a Spring event, "Taste of Harford" at Vignon Manor Farm in Darlington on Sunday, May 19, 2024 from 1-4pm in partnership with the Restaurant Association of Maryland, The Farm Bureau, Chamber of Commerce, and wineries and breweries. There will be vendors, music, art, and a contest for the best Blue Catfish dish, and samples to taste from vendors and competitors. The next Gala will be October 26, 2024. The theme is "Night Circus" from the book by Aaron Morganstern. There are plans for a Pub Crawl called "The Santa Summit". The Foundation is looking into having an "Author Night Out" again. Any suggestions of authors should be sent to Amber Shrodes. Their next board meeting is scheduled for 2/27/24 at 6:30 pm. Amber Shrodes presented two "Friends Projects in Progress", An online membership form and "Charity Books" to avoid paying sales tax and threaten our non profit status. More explained in New Business below.

**BRANCH MANAGER'S REPORT:** Ms Kovach reported that 572 people registered for Winter Reading at the Bel Air Branch as of 2/26/24, a total of 3,184 people signed up county wide. Artventures on 2/7 was attended by 49 people; the children learned about Renaissance painter, Raphael, drew cherubs, and painted frescoes. Ms. Kovach made a request for \$150 for a t-shirt screen printing programs for teens in Summer 2024 and a correction to the "Genealogy" program request, originally for \$150. It was corrected to \$175, an addition \$25 needed. The Friends approved both requests.

**NEW BUSINESS:** There were no out of cycle requests. For the Friends' T-shirt fundraiser, hopefully in time for the April book sale, Ms. Cedrone has asked for volunteers to research T-shirt printers for prices and quantities in sizes medium, large, and x-large. We'd prefer a local business rather than an online one. If you want to help, contact her at cedrone.amy@gmail.com. The design has been updated to remove the date so that we can sell them at more than one sale. At the Annual Friends Meeting, there was a discussion for an online form for Friends Memberships. Amber Shrodes said she would be working with the CSC department to create one. Moving forward, book sales should be referred to as Charity Book Sales. Signs should reflect "Donations may be accepted on behalf of the Friends in exchange for books". Ms Cedrone requested a reimbursement for purchased labels, tape, and sharpies for \$164.03. It was approved by all. A reminder that in keeping with tradition, the Friends will not meet in May because of Memorial Day.

OLD BUSINESS: Lynn Garrison, our past Treasurer, passed away on February 22, 2024. He was well loved and will be sorely missed. A memorial service is planned for April 17. The kick off for summer Reading will take place on June 17 at Bel Air from 10-12 and at Havre de Grace from 1-3pm. Bumblejunk, a storage area in Edgewood that accepts and donates books to non profits, reached out to the Friends and asked us to take books for our sale. A few members plan to visit and select some for our sales. A reminder that no account is necessary to access the Friends' Facebook page and that the Bel Air Friends now have a QR code that can be scanned for upcoming events. See below:  
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089242780747>.

There being no further business, Ms. Cedrone adjourned the meeting at 7:00. The next meeting of the Friends of the Library Board of Directors will be on Monday, March 25, 2024 at 6:00pm at The Bel Air Branch of HCPL. All friends are encouraged and welcome to attend.



Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Easter, Secretary