

**Friends of Black Earth Public Library Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2024**

Present: Kirsten Rogers (Interim Library Director); Nettie Koenig (President); Celia Westemeier (Vice President); Marie Pecquex (Treasurer); Kathryn Wachs (Secretary); Caro Smith (Member-at-Large)

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Nettie at 4:00 PM.
2. **Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes.** Reviewed and approved. (Caro motioned/Celia second).
3. **Treasurer's Report.** Marie reported our balances: \$13,205.00 in our checking account and \$36,097.26 in the Vanguard Fund. Treasurer's Report was reviewed and approved (Kathy motioned/Nettie second). Marie suggested opening a money market account at Vanguard to enable us to make more interest on the money currently in our checking account while still maintaining easy access to the funds. A transfer of \$5,000.00 was proposed and approved. (Nettie motioned/Caro second)
4. **Approval of Wisconsin Annual Report Filing.** The Board approved the reimbursement of \$25.00 to Marie Pecquex for filing our Wisconsin Annual Report. (Annette motioned/Caro second).
5. **Library Director's Report.** Kirsten shared the following updates:
 - Library Director Position. The Library Board will meet on October 28th to review applications and discuss hiring actions.
 - National Friends of Libraries Week. Posters and displays are up in the library and posts have been shared on the library's website and social media accounts.
 - Strategic Plan. Should be finalized and approved by the Library Board in December.

- Budget 2025. Still awaiting Budget Workshop date.

6. Membership.

- Bulk Mail campaign during National Friends of Library Week. The postcards will be sent by October 25th.
- Kirsten will post the postcard images on the library's Facebook page and send a copy to be published in the Star News.

7. Annual Friends Scholarship for 2024-2025.

- The Board approved a contribution of \$500.00 to be matched by the Mazo Friends for our 2024-2025 Black Earth/Mazomanie Friends of the Library Scholarship.
- Nettie will confirm with Brian Cole.
- Marie will contact the Wisconsin Heights Educational Foundation to make our donation.

8. Little Green Light Discussion.

- The Board is continuing to review giving platforms.

9. Upcoming Fundraisers.

- Silent Auction Art Sale: November 11-15 to 12-6-24.
- Set up November 14th at 4:00 PM.
- 2024 Bidding
 - Increases will be as follows:
 - For Auction items valued at under \$100.00, bidding increases will be in \$5.00 increments.
 - For Auction items valued at or over \$100.00, bidding increases will be in \$10.00 increments.

- Bidding will end at 4:00 PM on December 6th with winners notified immediately after.

10. **New Fundraising Ideas.**

- Business raffle baskets update.
 - Nettie will make follow up calls to the local businesses on our contact list.

11. **Paypal/Venmo Update.**

- Nettie and Marie are in the process of finalizing our account.

12. **Other Business.**

- Caro proposed the Friends donate new window signage for the library and will check vendors and prices.
- The Board accepted the resignation of Jill Stapleton, Member-at-Large.

13. **Schedule Next Meeting.** Our next meeting will be held on January 8, 2025 at 4:00 PM. Kathy will reserve the Village meeting room for this date.

13. **Future Agenda Items.**

- Trivia Night – Saturday, February 1, 2025.
 - Mazo will host.
 - Nettie will reach out to Brian Cole to discuss:
 - Keeping track of payments.
 - Moving to a larger space.
 - Considering a change from a print to a digital format.

14. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM.