

September Meeting Recap- 5 members present and Library Director

Dover Days fundraising went well. We raised \$177 from the raffles, \$50 from donations and had 4 new members sign up. The total raised was \$267. Takeaways for next year- it was a nice outreach to speak to members of the community, there were too many baskets for the table, and gift certificates were definitely the most popular items as well as Crown Maple syrups, probably because it was something that they wouldn't normally buy for themselves. Thanks to everyone that contributed or came by that day to assist.

We have one additional basket to put together with items that were donated by Caroline Williams for Dover Days, but we had no room left on the table. It's geared towards physical book lovers- it includes a lap pad to hold a book, book light, magnifying glass, pillow that can turn into a blanket, a reading logbook and some elegant bookmarks in a fabric covered case. This will be raffled off in the library for the month of October. The drawing will be held on November 1st.

Membership is up to 33 members with 16 checking off the volunteer box. This has raised \$310 for the library in memberships and an additional \$475 in donations for a total of \$775.

The total amount raised for the library since we started on August 29th is \$1052. Congratulations!! Let's keep adding to our membership. Keep sharing our message to different groups and friends. It was suggested that we could do some outreach to different groups in town- Lions Club, Ladies Auxiliary, etc. We are looking for members that can volunteer to do that and would appreciate a response here or on the Facebook page where I will create a conversation to respond to.

We want to continue to participate in town activities to extend our outreach. We would like to participate in "trunk or treat" and would like to talk about different ideas at the next Friends meeting. I would also ask that everyone who can please donate a bag of candy. I called the town recreation department and they are announcing the date at the end of the week. They also told me to expect 200-250 kids. I would like to collect enough candy so not only can we participate as the friends group, but we can donate the candy for the library to be represented as well to save the cost of the candy from coming out of their budget. I will be getting in touch with Lois who is in charge of the library's "trunk". We need ideas on how to decorate our trunk and would like a volunteer to let their trunk be decorated. Please respond here or on the Facebook group where I will create a conversation to respond to.

Tammy has volunteered to send thank you letters to the business donors who contributed to Dover Days and to send out the thank you letters with the free book certificates to the most recent members who have signed up. After discussion with Donna, we are discontinuing the certificates to save on the

mailing and stationary costs involved with sending them out. We will instead offer member specials when we have the book sale.

Tammy had reached out to me on Facebook to talk about running a penny social for the library. After discussing what was needed and the time frame of about 2-3 months that would be necessary to properly plan for it, it was agreed to hold off until sometime next year. We are concerned with weather interrupting during the winter months so fundraising that requires a specific date may have to wait until next year. We then brainstormed different fundraising ideas. Suggestions that came up were-

1- Tag and Bake sale

We would need donations of items, volunteers to set up and sort them, volunteers willing to bake items for the bake sale and volunteers to be present to run the sale.

2- Silent Auction

We would need people to solicit donations from businesses throughout the area, set up the auction and run it. Maybe for December?

3-Benefit Dinner

We were thinking about asking a local restaurant (possibly Oscar's? Or the new Mexican place in Wingdale) to host a fundraiser dinner to benefit the library. Would need volunteers to look into that.

4-Coffee and Canvas

This idea is one that we are hoping to do in November. Since we can not have alcohol at the library we were thinking about mocktails or having a cold weather event with mulled cider, special coffees or cocoa. I will be reaching out to Greg Monacelli to see if he is available to run the painting event and how much he would charge per person so that we can figure out how much to charge. Reverie coffee had reached out to me on Facebook when I posted the baskets for Dover Days, so if we can work it out with Greg, I will reach out to her as well to see what she can offer.

We would appreciate some feedback about these ideas and would love to hear your suggestions if you were unable to make it to the meeting. All input and ideas are encouraged from all of our members, even if you are unable to volunteer.

We would also love some feedback about which events you might be able to volunteer for if you put yourself down as willing to volunteer.

Our next meeting will be Monday, October 17th at 6:30 pm in the community room.

Thanks everyone!

Chris Bergin

Trustee liaison for the Friends of the Dover Plains Library