

Friends of the Woodstock Library Winter Newsletter 2020

Our last business meeting was in November 2019 and our next business meeting will be March 10, 2020.

We want to update you on some of the things that have happened or will be happening prior to our next business meeting.

Book donations/Storage Concerns:

We continue to have community book donations and withdrawn books from the library being given to us. We had approx. 20 boxes of books left over from our November sale and 100 more boxes have been donated as of February 5th. We have February, March and April still remaining before the sale takes place and more books will be donated.

We have been needing to find another storage area for the donated books as the library has storage for about 60 boxes. As members, we have been discussing this need for months. Mid December David Harvie and myself met with the Art Gallery Curator, Mary Reid to discuss storing our boxes of books on the 4th floor of their building. It was agreed that we could store our books at the Art Gallery. The Art Gallery requested the following conditions be met:

- Boxes of books be delivered by someone who has liability insurance, and their own trollies.
- Boxes would need tarps to cover them as sometimes the roof has leaks that could damage unprotected boxes.
- The boxes would be delivered between 9-2 on a Monday.
- There would be no charge to use their facility for storage.

2.

The offer was discussed with the Friends executive at the end of December and mentioned to the Book Sale Committee members. The decision was made to accept the offer and to update the Friends members of the situation.

The next steps were to get quotes on how much it would cost to move the boxes. We are waiting for another quote but at the moment it may cost anywhere from \$300 plus (including tax) We have run out of options and can no longer wait, as the number of books for the sale has increased by 2 to 3 times the amount we have had in the past. The library has a small storage space. We are out of space now and infringing on staff safety issues. We may also have another 100 or more boxes by the end of April to ship to the Art Gallery. We are finding ourselves with more books, needing more storage and a bigger venue for the Book Sale itself.

Banker boxes:

We are in constant need of banker boxes/photocopier boxes to store all the books being donated. If members have or know places that can donate these boxes, please contact Marion Baker at: fotwpl@gmail.com .

Book Sale Options:

This leads to a possible change of venue for the Book Sale in May. If we are shipping boxes of books to the Art Gallery, do we really want to pay to ship them all back to use the library program room which would not be able to accommodate all the books?

3.

The Art Gallery has offered us a larger space to hold the Book Sale on Saturday and Sunday (first weekend in May). They are also having an Art Gallery event those two days so it was felt that it should bring in more people. The sale would be on the third floor and easily reached by the large elevators just inside the entrance.

The Art Gallery would let us use the Book Sale room, chairs, and tables for free. Plus they would allow us all day Monday to box the books left over which is more time than the library can allow us – they usually give us 2 hours to dismantle the sale. We are considering this option as our needs are changing.

Book Sale Committee changes:

It is with regret that Andie Lennox has withdrawn from being on the Book Sale Committee. Sharron Skevington and Jan Post have remained however, we are in need of a minimum of one if not two volunteers to work with them in the planning and logistics of the sale itself.

If you are interested in working on the committee, please email Marion Baker at fotwpl@gmail.com. There would be some time requirement as the committee meets to plan or communicates by email, plus the set up afternoon on the Friday before the sale and then Saturday, Sunday and Monday of the sale.

If you have questions, Marion will direct you to Sharron and Jan.

4.

Other Safety Changes regarding the sale:

The government and our municipality have mandated that volunteers be protected for their well-being, health and safety when dealing with the public. Any Friend who wishes to volunteer at the Book Sale or any other public events are asked to take simple introductory course(s) which are provided free. We are considering doing the courses together as a social activity in the library program room. The courses only need to be done once and a certificate of completion is given. We are asking those Members who volunteer their time at the Book Sale to consider taking the courses along with the Friends executive. More details to follow.

Educational Webinar for Friends – February 18th

Members are invited to view this webinar at the Woodstock Public Library Program room on Feb. 18th (Tuesday) starting at 1:00 p.m. It is free! Please let Marion Baker know if you will be attending. Or if you have a computer and internet and wish to view it in your own home go to the Ontario Library website and sign up - noting you are entitled to view for free.

How a Small Friends Group Can Make a Difference



Any library can benefit from a Small Friends group!

Many Small Friends groups can help the library by raising funds or taking on other roles, such as advocacy. Dorothy will explain how Small Friends groups function, the types of events or activities they undertake and how they can support their library. Though it may not seem like huge amounts of money are raised, what is raised does make a big difference to what small libraries can offer their consumers. It is helpful to know what other Friends groups do to raise funds. The Ontario Library Association's Small Friends Committee has worked closely with the Ontario Libraries Association to offer excellent resources available to assist Friends groups and libraries.

You will learn:

- 1) The benefits of having a Small Friends Group;
- 2) How Small Friends groups may be organized and fundraising ideas manageable for smaller Friends groups; and
- 3) Resources available to help Friends groups and libraries.

About the presenter:

Dorothy is President of Friends of the Prince Township Library (Township population just over 1000 people). She was involved with two Friends groups and also Friends of Canadian Libraries for many years and she has organized many successful fundraisers. She is also Chair of the OLA Friends Committee and is committed to ensuring all Friends groups have the resources they need.

All times listed are in Eastern time.

Cost: Member \$45 / Non-Member: \$55. [Please note, no charge to Friends of the Woodstock Public Library](#)

The Education Institute is pleased to provide complimentary access to this webinar to members of Friends of Library groups. Please select the "Friends of Libraries" option at registration to register for free.

6.

Facebook:

Krista has completed a term as Facebook Coordinator, we are looking for volunteers to post to our Facebook page.

If you are interested please contact Marion Baker at fotwpl@gmail.com .

We look forward to your feedback and suggestions

Marlene Turkington

Chair – Woodstock Friends of the Library