

**Friends of Brighton Public Library
Annual General Meeting
March 12, 2015
Council Chambers, Brighton Municipal Building**

Minutes

Chair Lesley Simla welcomed members and guests.

The minutes from the AGM of April 3, 2014, Statement of Revenue & Expenditures for December 31, 2013 through December 31, 2014, plus the Budget for 2015 were circulated.

Our guest speaker Library CEO Mellissa D'Onofrio-Jones spoke on "Top Trends in Public Libraries".

Report from the Chair

It was in 2005 that Friends was born around my dining room table with a group of like minded people, although we didn't officially become a group until the following year. The first meetings were spent hammering out Mission Statements, Constitutions, areas of interest and building a Board.

It is a matter of pride that we are still in existence, while other organizations have come and gone. We have stayed true to our mandate "*The purpose of Friends shall be to promote and encourage the use of the resources and services of the Brighton Public Library, including the Codrington Branch. Friends will help provide funds and volunteer assistance to enable the library to enhance resources and facilities, expand services and develop programs to better meet the cultural, educational and information needs of library users. Friends will work from a position of advocacy on behalf of the Brighton Public Library.*"

I will not enumerate the many things we have done, as they are available on our website. Anyway, as the saying goes, "What have you done for me lately?"

This past year we provided an opportunity for the community to say good bye to Maureen Venton as she left for a well earned retirement and introduced Mellissa to the community. We also helped provide her with a Professional Development opportunity.

We were active during the Municipal election canvassing all candidates for their views on the Library and Library expansion. I would take this opportunity to remind our elected Council that they all clearly demonstrated their support at a Public meeting before they were elected. I would remind them of their promises.

Once again we provided prizes for Reading programs, raffled off some amazing baskets, and repeated "Blind Date with a Book".

The Fall Book Sale is now considered a staple in the Brighton Calendar, thanks to the dedication of Tom Rosebush and all our loyal helpers.

Tonight's meeting is also a time for change. One person from our original meetings has stayed to serve for the last ten years, and others have served nearly as long, giving their time and talent to a shared love of the Library but now they wish to step aside.

We will be saying good bye to Kathy Teng, an original board member and our first Treasurer, Mary Pickford, Visiting Library, Joan Cohrs, current Treasurer and Dale Carter. They have provided a strong backbone to our group and have always graciously turned their hands to whatever task that was required. I want to sincerely thank them for their years of service. Not only are they Friends, but I count them as my personal friends. Besides they know that they will still be called upon. No one makes a clean getaway unless they move very far away.

Staying on the Board are original members Tom Rosebush, Membership and Book Sale Convenor, Joan Selwood, Recording Secretary . Gayle Wilk, will continue as Member at Large. I am grateful for their desire to provide continuity and experience. In keeping with our constitution I will remain on the Board as past chair. I'm pleased to get out from behind the wheel and plan to doze in the back seat.

Since our inception we have had the fullest co-operation and great assistance from all the Library staff. You have been there for us, as often as we are there for you. We thank you, and want to continue to show our appreciation.

I also wish to thank Bob Burke and Murray Workman for keeping communication open between the Board of Trustees and Friends. We are all in this together.

I have enjoyed the last ten years immensely and have been enriched in every way. If I have one disappointment however, it is that we are still meeting around my dining room table!

Before I introduce our nominees for the Board of Friends I would ask for approval of the minutes of 2014. Moved by Joan Selwood, seconded by Tom Rosebush - approved.

Motion to accept the Treasurers report and Proposed budget for 2015. Moved by Joan Cohrs, seconded by Murray Workman - approved.

I would also ask for a motion to accept all other reports. Moved by Mary Pickford, seconded by Joan Cohs – approved.

It is my pleasure to introduce you to the people who have accepted nominations to the Board.

Stan and Christina McMullin moved to Brighton last year from Prince Edward County, where they were active in both Friends and on the County Library Board. One of their first acts upon moving was to inquire about “Friends” here. They bring a wealth of experience, fresh ideas and dedication to the group. We have already put them to work at the book sale.

Gina Gillespie comes to us as a huge library supporter and lover of books. She is an experienced journalist who spent several years in Afghanistan. I hope her time with us is quieter.

Membership - Tom Rosebush

The Friends of Brighton Public Library had a paid up membership of 76 adults at the end of 2014.

Visiting Library Service – Mary Pickford

The Visiting Library Service is a small but important part of the Friends of the Brighton Public Library.

Our volunteers supply library materials to members of the community who, due to disability or lack of transportation, are unable to come to the library independently. We supply books on an ongoing or temporary basis depending on the needs of the individual.

The volunteers select regular or large print books, audio books and DVDs according to the requests and interests of each client and deliver these to the client's home, exchanging and returning items as necessary.

If you know of anyone who might benefit from this service or if you would like to volunteer please tell one of the library staff or contact the coordinator: Mary Pickford at 613-475-1473.

Next Regular Board Meeting: Thursday March 19, 2015 at 2:30pm at #2

Adjournment.

Joan Selwood, Recording Secretary