

Friends of the North Grenville Public Library

Annual General Meeting

April 28th, 2022

Executive members present: Joan Simpson, Rachel Brown, Jane Rocchio, Jude Levere (recorder)

Regrets: Barbara Rousseau, Barb McDerby, Mary Carlson, Rebecca Campbell

On April 28th, 2022, the AGM was scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m. Due to an unscheduled power outage from 4:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m., the AGM began at 7:15 p.m. when half plus one of the reserved audience members arrived. Joan Simpson welcomed everyone and explained that the order of agenda had been revised due to the power outage. Our guest speaker, author Maggie Wheeler, would give her presentation first about the long ranging effects of The St. Lawrence Seaway and Power Dam Project on those who were displaced by it in the late 1950's. The business meeting would immediately follow this presentation.

Jude Levere introduced Maggie, spoke about her background and her historical series of books, The Lost Villages Mysteries, which are being used to teach English and History courses in intermediate and post-secondary levels in Ontario and Upper New York State. Maggie's presentation held the audience spellbound and was enjoyed by all. Joan thanked Maggie for her excellent and fascinating historical presentation.

Report by the Chair: Activities of the Past Year:

Membership Structure: Friends updated the membership brochure. It is a work-in-progress.

Logo: It has been updated to be more eye-catching.

Insurance: Friends cancelled the private insurance policy (not used during the pandemic). If we hold activities on municipal property, we have basic coverage if we pay a nominal fee for each event. If we hold an event on other property, we will arrange insurance for that event.

Donations and membership renewals: These funds went toward the purchase of large print and audio books for the library. Friends helped fund summer programs and the purchase of young adult literature.

100 Women Who Care: Friends presentation resulted in two donations.

Kemptville Promenade: It was a good opportunity to talk about Friends and recruit new members.

Enhancement of Book Collections: The community plucked leaves from a Wish Tree and donated the amount on each leaf toward the French Language Book Collection and English Old and New Children's Classics.

Book Launches by Local Authors: Friends sponsored book launches for Mike Martin and Andrew McManaman.

Bereavements:

Margaret Carlson was a former treasurer and a faithful and staunch supporter of Friends.

Dr. Patrick Babin (Pat) was the founder of Friends and an inspiration to its members.

Regrets: Roberta Russell had planned to give the tribute to Pat Babin but was unavoidably detained by the power outage. She will give the tribute on May 28th at the first Babin Inspirational Event, which will feature an Art Panel discussion and exhibition of works of art.

Business Meeting: The meeting was very brief. Reports were approved and the old executive stepped down and then stood for re-election. We were delighted to welcome the return of Jeffrey Murray to the executive in the position of secretary. Barbara Rousseau will be treasurer. Joan Simpson and Jude Levere will be co-chairs.

We did not have a quorum and so could not formally pass any motions. In lieu of scheduling another AGM with the possibility that we might again not have a quorum, Joan sent a letter to the Friends Membership listing three things that require a quorum approval:

1. The Minutes of the 2021 AGM (Zoom), Treasurer's Report and Chair's Report which are on the Friends of North Grenville Public Library website (ngpl.ca/support-the-library/friends-of-ngpl) at the bottom of the section on the AGM.
2. The executive for the coming year: Co-Chairs Joan Simpson and Jude Fader-Levere, Secretary Jeffrey Murray, Treasurer Barbara Rousseau and members at large Barb McDerby and Jane Rocchio.
3. Agreement to receive notifications from Friends by email (approval is needed to be in compliance with government regulations).

Next Executive Meeting: May 14th, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.