

**FRIENDS OF THE SPIRIT LAKE LIBRARY**  
**July 16, 2024**

Meeting called to order by President Dori Lippon. (She brought cake again!)

**Present:** Cindy Davis, Dori Lippon, Judy Weipert, Sandy Ladegaard, Steve Sievert, Leah Streeter, Mary Lou Clarke, Karen Eichner, and new member, Julie Gibson

**Minutes** read by Judy Weipert. Approved Clarke/Streeter

**Financial Report:** Friends Account Fund Reconciliation 6/30/24  
Expenditures \$18,415.23; Revenue \$20,429.86. Approved Ladegaard/Eichner

**Children's Services Report:**

The library averaged 100 attendees per week for the summer reading program. The finale held at the bowling alley was not an overwhelming number, but was a positive event. All in all the program attendance was great! The Bluey themed storytime/party was a huge success, with 360 attendees and lots of variety with plenty of folks helping out. The bluey costume which we had purchased is no longer needed, and Cindy has thoughts of trading it with another library, etc.

**Reports and Discussion:**

**A. Select officer candidates for November meeting.** Cindy informed the Friends group that she plans to retire the end of December or January. She started her career at the Spirit Lake Public Library on December 31, 2011, and under her leadership the library has grown and prospered.

**B. Microfilming Projects:**

**1. Marion Helland materials.** Cindy shared a Marion Helland book of 9 decades of civil rights service which she would like to see digitized. Looking into grant money or some shared expenses. This brings to mind a long-term project of digitizing all the old stuff the library has accumulated, including old plat books, family histories, and information that the state historical society might be interested in acquiring as well. Cindy's comment was that if something catastrophic happened to the library, we want to save the "old" stuff which cannot be replaced.

**2. Newspaper updates.** We received a quote from Advantage Archives for microfilming and digitizing the Dickinson County News 01/05/2022 09/29/2022 10/06/2022 06/29/2023 for \$1,010.00. Motion was made to pay this bill. Approved Sievert/Clarke

**C. Landscaping? Review WiFi patio improvements and suggestions for more?**

The city has provided us with 3 bike racks and assembled benches and tables along with umbrellas, which are already in use. Suggestions for a mural on the south wall with possibly Brad Travis or Crystal Cross doing the artwork. We talked about a fence or planters on the other side, but it has to be able to be removed in the winter.

**Wish list:** Nothing noted.

**Other Business: new members? Welcome to Julie Gibson!**

Adjournment. Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 19, 2024 at noon.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Weipert, Secretary