



Peachtree City Library, Incorporated
Friends of the Peachtree City Library
201 Willow Bend Road
Peachtree City, GA 30269

ANNUAL MEETING
December 5, 2023 –11:00 AM

Attendees: Lee Eltzroth, Jerry Kahn, Susan Bloemendaal, Anna Hollander, Sharon Marchisello, Jill Prouty, Charlie Nelson, Jan Allis, Candes Lescher

1. Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order by President Lee Eltzroth at 11:05 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting:

- A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2023, meeting of the Board of Directors. The minutes will be posted on our website <https://ptclibraryfriends.org>.

3. President's Report:

Highlights for 2023

- This year we welcomed new Board member, Susann Varner Bloemendaal. Susan is a former lawyer who has experience in the non-profit sector and with libraries.
- In June, the Board celebrated the 50th anniversary of our FOL by having a meal together at a local restaurant.
- We hosted a Thank You luncheon for the library volunteers and staff on April 20th, in conjunction with during National Library Week.
- In October, we staffed a table at the Local Authors Expo (October 7) and during National Friends of the Library Week (October 16 - 21).
- Mystery Book Bag sales, which started in 2022, continued this year centered around various holidays. This initiative has been very successful.
- The book *Hip Pocket – An anthology of Peachtree City* was published in March. *Hip Pocket* is copyrighted by the FOL and is the first literary journal to be put out by a Georgia library. The book, which was edited by Jill Prouty, contains essays and poems about Peachtree City, including contributions from Board member Sharon Marchisello and former Board member Rebecca Watts.

Joel Cowan History Room

- We continue to purchase needed supplies for the History Room and bought more space on Google Drive to store digital files.
- Significant acquisitions in 2023 include:
 - Materials related to Gilbert B. Dickey, who worked for Peachtree City marketing condominiums in 1973 via his company Earth Services Organization (ESO).
 - Seven (7) boxes of photographs of Peachtree City Tennis Center events and personalities dated from 1996 to 2022.
 - Photographs of Peachtree City's 50th anniversary events in 2009 - the 4th of July parade, Founders Day, and the Birthday Party
 - A wonderful collection of photos and documents originally belonging to Robert K Price, Sr., who was President & General Manager of the McIntosh Trail Arts, Inc. These materials, from the Peachtree City Visitors Center, relate to the production of "The McIntosh Trail," and the construction of the amphitheater "The Fred".
 - A group of photos and magazine articles related to the development of Tinsley Mill Village, opened by Troutman Co. in October 1972.
- New artificial collections created include:
 - Textiles
 - Little League World Series held in 2018
 - Peachtree City Police Department
 - Peachtree City Fire Department
- Accession was made on four (4) additional collections of older materials which were donated via deeds of gift. This will enable us to have a paper trail from 1988 to the present on as many of the items in the History Room as possible.
- A scrapbook containing drawings made by students of the third-grade class at Kedron Elementary School in 1998 was digitized. The drawings depict events in the history of Peachtree City between 1959 and 1997.
- In the past two years only two (2) researchers utilized the History Room resources. So far this year we have had seven (7) researchers with questions posed either on site or via email.
- Work will continue researching and cataloging items, digitizing photographs, and creating finding aids. The goal is to have a sufficient amount of material to start construction of a History Room website.

Exhibits

- The “Fred’s” exhibit was removed from the case so that the Fayette-Starr’s Mill Chapter of the DAR could case for an exhibit, up to one week..
- An exhibit celebrating the 46th year of Partners Pizza II and on Aberdeen Village Center, where Partners Pizza eventually opened, is being assembled, and an exhibit centering on Joel Cowan is planned.

Floy Farr Room

- Lee has been working to design and install a new Floy Farr exhibit. The design is being developed by a young lady as part of her Girl Scout Gold Award requirements. It is planned to have the exhibit in place in 2024. The exhibit will have movable panels so that they can travel to different events and venues, such as the Peachtree City Hall for the city’s 65th anniversary, or to the Fayette Historical Society for display in their new area in the historic Fayette County Courthouse.
- The Floy Farr portrait by Martin Pate, which was acquired in 2022, will be permanently wall mounted. Two historic maps, one of Fayette County in the 1930’s, and the other a large topographical map of Peachtree City from the old visitor’s center are also planned to be mounted.

4. Secretary’s Report (presented by Jerry Kahn)

- There are currently 126 FOL members consisting of:
 - 69 Individual
 - 30 Family
 - 10 Patron
 - 9 Sustaining
 - 3 Corporate
 - 5 Honorary
- The Friends of Georgia Libraries (FOGL) has entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Georgia Public Library Service (GPLS). The purpose is to enable GPLS to participate in a Google grant program. Google offers a grant for non-profit organizations that provides access to up to \$10,000 per month in search ads shown on Google.com. GPLS wanted to apply but is a governmental organization, not a non-profit. As a non-profit, FOGL does qualify for the Google program. GPLS will manage the account and create the ads. FOGL will share its non-profit registration number and be able to provide input on the ads. Ads will focus on the benefits of a Georgia public library card, such as high-speed internet, lifelong learning, the PINES card, and other statewide library offerings.

- The FOGL annual meeting will be held on April 5, 2024 at the Peachtree City Library. As hosts, the FOL will be responsible for providing refreshments (coffee, juice, water, etc.) and catering lunch. FOL members will be needed to help conduct a library tour and with a guest author appearance and book sales.

5. Treasurer's Report:

- Jerry Kahn, presented the Profit and Loss Statements and Balance Sheet as of November 30, 2023, attached.
- The checking account balance at Ameris Bank as of December 5, is \$45, 016.89.
- Highlights for 2023 (through November) include:
 - Royalties from Hip Pocket sales as a new revenue source.
 - Mystery Book Bag Sales continue to generate revenue.
 - The AmazonSmile program has ended.
 - Flash drives were restocked (\$1,060.00)
- Jerry will send out a call for the 2024 budget in late December or early January.

6. Art Initiative:

- Receptions for each new exhibit are being held once again on Saturdays. Exhibits sponsored in 2023 included:
 - “Horsing Around”, by equine artists Len Jagoda, Julie Nestor and Ulla Strickland.
 - A tribute to Ukraine friends, gardens, and flowers, featuring the art of Mia Broder and native jewelry by Yana Pidorvan
 - “Fantastical! The 3d Dimension”, with art by ceramic artists Andrea Faye and friends.
 - “Bending the Rules”, featuring paintings by fine artists Kent Millinux and Pam Neil
 - Photographs by members of the Peachtree City Photography Club.
 - “A Family Affair”, by fine artists Gwen Thompson, Linda Hawley, and Jessica Summers.
- Planned exhibits in 2024 include:
 - January & February: Paper flower art of Rae Duncan, president of the Newnan-Coweta Art Association
 - March & April: The work of artist Trish Land
 - May & June: 3D art by artists working in sculpture, ceramics, clay and wood.
 - July & August: Primitive folk art
 - September & October: Photographs by members of the Peachtree City Photography Club
 - November & December: TBD

6. Library Announcements

- All key library numbers (circulation, in-person visits, program attendance, etc.) are up for the year.
- Jill presented *Hip Pocket* at the Georgia Library Conference in October; it was well received. Plans are under way to produce a second volume of *Hip Pocket*. The book is available for sale at the library.
- In the coming year we plan to increase the amount of History Room materials available on the Digital Library of Georgia.
- Upgrade activities at the library include reupholstering/refinishing of furniture and upgrading the elevator.

7. Old Business:

- Anna Hollander provided a summary of Mystery Book Bag Sales. Starting prior to the 2022 Christmas Holidays, Mystery Book Bags were sold for Mother's Day, summer reading "Summer Sizzlers", and now again for the Christmas Holidays. Selling at five dollars per bag, net gains of \$249.07 were realized in 2022 and \$135.22 so far in 2023. Anna, Ruth Arthur, and Susan Bloemendaal are the team who sort books and prepare the bags. Jerry Kahn designed and printed the labels for the bags.

8. New Business:

- The vice-president position remains unfilled. We need suggestions. We also could use younger Board members.
- It was proposed to purchase five (5) floor rockers for the Children's library. The monies for this will be put in the 2024 budget.
- It was proposed that artist Martin Pate, who painted the Floy Farr portrait, be commissioned to paint a portrait of Jowel Cowan. The monies for this will be put in the 2024 budget.

9. Next Board Meeting Date:

- TBA

10. Adjournment:

- The meeting adjourned at 12:11 pm.

Attachments:

Profit & Loss Statement as of November 30, 2023
Balance Sheets as of November 30, 2023

Recorded by Jerry Kahn, CFO