Lyceum Meeting June 4, 2018

Present: Mary Weissblum, Christy Park, Rosie Sagall, Saira Austin, Cindi Williams, Jill Carter, and Susan Oleksiw

Absent: Barbara Braver

The minutes were accepted.

Wrap-ups

The Mark Parisi talk was excellent but attendance was modest.

Eileen Carlotto's program on meditation, May 24, had a small attendance, 12 people, but the audience seemed to enjoy it. She had slides but didn't make much use of them, and instead led a meditation and general discussion.

Old Business

John Roots, "Crop Circles," is scheduled for Saturday, August 11, 10:00 to 12:30. He requested this time.

Iris Weaver is scheduled for August 9, 7:00 to 8:30, with an honorarium of $100. She'll have slides as well as samples for people to view. Title is Foraging through the Seasons.

Paul Zambella, from the state police crime lab, offered two programs on forensic science. The committee was interested in the one about various forensic skills rather than the case studies. The program is scheduled for September 13, from 7:00 to 8:30. We're offering an honorarium of $150.

Dam Ducharme has offered a program on hiking the Appalachian Trail, but he's asking for a total of $410, which is high. The program didn't elicit enough interest to justify the fee.

Hygge, a Danish term signifying experiences that create a warm and affectionate feeling, is the theme of a series of events and programs at other libraries, but this didn't seem to be the right program for the Lyceum. We reviewed the Lyceum mission statement, and felt that the Hygge concept didn't quite fit. The list of events are the kinds of experiences that are generated in home and families. This is possibly more relevant to Christy Russo in the Children's Department. The Lyceum will not pursue this.

Correction: There is no new poet laureate in Gloucester.

New Business

Bradley Bagshaw has published a novel about Gloucester fishing. As a local boy, he should be a good draw. The Lyceum will sponsor this program.

Cape Ann Astronomy Club is interested in doing another program. Mike Dineen is the de facto president. The CAAC has no dues, no membership list, and serves as a way for a group of people to get together to look at the stars. They set up telescopes for people to share at Halibut Point, for example, and see what they can see. This would be a good Saturday afternoon program, so later in the year.

A suggestion was made to invite a neurologist to speak about advances in neuroscience, in response to the growing concern about dementia and other problems related to aging. Cindi will explore possible speakers.

We misunderstood the issue of having a Lyceum member present at every evening program to ensure there was someone there at the end to help with closing. This is not necessary. The custodians will take care of this.

The program on THOWs and THOFs was taped by Cape Ann TV, and the videotape is excellent and well edited. Susan will send the link to the committee members.

The program adjourned at 5:45.

Notes provided by Susan Oleksiw