

Minutes of the Friends of the Hampton Falls Free Library

Date: Wednesday Jan 3, 2024; Called to order at 6:33 pm.

Present: Susi Burke, Amy Dorgan, Leah Knowlton, Joanna Meighan, Donna Onacki, Alisha Roberts, Jane Shanahan , Judy Wilson.

Discussed:

1. Dec Minutes

Jane made a motion to approve the December 2023 Minutes; Motion passed with all in favor.

2. Treasurer's report

- a. Current Balance: \$51,927.37
- b. Benevity Platform is being used for a donor's company match so Donna added the Friends to the platform. Judy will reach out to them and see when the matching funds should be expected.
- c. No info on gaming at this point. Alisha will reach out to see if we have been added to their calendar.

3. Director's Report - Joanna

a. Completed Programs

- i. December Holiday Greens Craft, Dec 16th
 1. Sold out; very well received.

b. Upcoming Programs

- i. Apple Program with Jared Kane
 1. Jan 10th at 6:00.
 2. Refreshments - Jane will provide some apple cider. Donna can provide apple squares.
- ii. Paper Piercing with Amy Dorgan
 1. Old 18th century quilting technique.
 2. Amy purchased materials already and will need reimbursement.
 3. 2 sessions on Feb 17th; 10 people each, 10-12 pm and 12-2 pm.
- iii. Journey to Nepal with Scott Faiia
 1. Feb 21st at 6:30.

c. Strategic Plan

- i. Preferred vendor has been chosen. Currently looking at funding options. There will likely be a warrant article to use funds that have already been donated. \$29,500 is the total requested on the warrant. **There will be no tax impact.**
- ii. Friends can help inform people and gain support for the warrant article and strategic plan.

- d. Museum passes used last month - 4 for MFA, 8 for Strawberry Banke, 1 for Portland Art Museum and Portland Children's Museum. 109 total passes used in 2023 compared to 57 total for last year. MFA and Strawberry Banke were highest in use, Gardner and Bedrock Gardens were next. The Indian Museum did not get used.

4. Youth Services Report - Leah

- a. Polar Express storytime had a great turnout and lots of engagement..
- b. Leah has already booked two events for Summer Reading.

- c. She is working on an author visit in August with a quilter that helped create a quilt for a space rocket.
 - d. Alisha mentioned that J Carnes Roofing will be doing a bigger and better Santa event next year so maybe the Library can have a booth there instead of having Santa at the library.
5. Talking Points on Budget
- a. The notes were sent in an email 12/17 to the Friends.
 - b. Distill talking points into a mailer and on the flip side have a calendar of events.
6. Providing Support for Strategic Plan
- a. Joanna will have the library summary for the town report written within a week.
 - b. Why is the Strategic Plan important?
 - i. Amy will resend that info via email.
 - c. Create a Handout
 - i. Need Warrant Article # first.
 - ii. Create a Postcard or Half Page AND Social Media Post.
 - 1. Amy will work on Content and share with the Chair of the Trustees.
 - 2. The next Trustee meeting is Jan 25th.
 - 3. Susi will do the Canva design.
 - 4. Judy and Donna will put a bulletin board together (in place of Museum)
 - 5. Front
 - a. Vote yes on Warrant #
 - b. No Tax Impact
 - c. Date of Election.
 - 6. Back
 - a. Why do it?
 - b. Why now?
 - c. What will we get from it?
7. Little Free Library Sign Ups
- [Friends of the HF Library: Stock Little Free Library \(signupgenius.com\)](https://www.signupgenius.com)
- a. Donna will reach out to Desiree on her offer to help with the Little Free Library.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Judy:** will reach out to donors about Benevity matching donation.
- **Amy:** will create content for the Warrant Support handout.
- **Susi:** will design the Warrant Support handout.
- **Judy and Donna:** will create a new bulletin board for Warrant Support info.
- **All:** support the warrant article.

Meeting adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 7:46.

Next meeting:

Feb 7 , 2024, at 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Susi Burke, Secretary