

Minutes of the Friends of the Hampton Falls Free Library

Date: Wednesday Dec 4, 2024; Called to order at 6:35 pm.

Present: Susan Burke, Amy Dorgan, Leah Knowlton, Joanna Meighan, Deborah Regan, Alisha Roberts. On Zoom: Jean Storer

ACTION ITEMS:

- **All:** Select dates for the [Friends of the HF Library: Volunteer Signup \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com)
- **Amy:** Will send a recording and slides to everyone for the ALA Webinar on the Library of Things.
- **Judy/Susi:** Meet to discuss Library of Things.
- **Leah/Val:** Meet to discuss Craft Swap.
- **Amy:** Email Judy to see if she can touch base with her contacts at the Brook.

PARKING LOT:

- Look into the possibility of creating Friends Swag like Tote Bags, table banner, name tags. Note: Enviro-Tote is a NH company that libraries around here use.
- Explore the possibility of a Repair Clinic - we would need a champion for this.
- Review potential craft subscriptions.

DISCUSSED:

1. Minutes
 - a. Alisha made a motion to approve the Nov 2024 Minutes; Motion passed with all in favor.
2. Goals for this cycle - Amy
 - a. Awareness – increase awareness of Friends and how we support the library.
 - b. Membership – increase membership by 5. Membership has increased by 1.
3. Treasurer's report
 - a. Current Balance: \$47,456.46
 - b. No updates from Dover; Alisha was previously told that they were going local so we should probably investigate The Brook in Seabrook.
 - c. The LAS PTO is officially selected for charitable gaming funds from The Brook. Are we on the list to be approved in Seabrook? No one thinks so.
 - d. Amy made a motion to approve continued participation for charitable gaming funding with the provision that we are not required to promote gaming. Motion passed with all in favor.
 - e. Amy will email Judy to see if she can touch base with her contacts there.
4. Trustee Report
 - a. No Trustee was present. Joanna said the discussions have been about budgeting and the strategic plan.
 - b. Strategic Plan
 - i. The strategic plan has three committees, Physical Space, Outreach, Programming/Services.
 - ii. Trustees, Friends, Staff as well as public are on these committees.

- iii. Individual committee meetings are being held as well as full meetings. Strategic plan comment period is complete.
 - iv. There will be a full meeting in January.
- 5. Director's Report (Joanna)
 - a. Completed Programs
 - i. Veterans Day Program: Women Pilots Tell Their Stories of Service.
 - 1. Wednesday, November 13th at 6:30pm.
 - 2. It was well received.
 - 3. Great attendance: 54 people.
 - ii. Adult Book Club
 - 1. Eyes Turned Skyward by Alena Dillon. The author led the book club.
 - 2. Wednesday, November 20th, 6:30pm.
 - 3. 26 people attended.
 - iii. Adult Crafting: Giving Plate
 - 1. Saturday, November 23rd at 10:30am.
 - 2. 12 people attended.
 - 3. There was good feedback on the complexity of the craft.
 - b. Upcoming Programs
 - i. December
 - 1. Cookie Exchange
 - a. Saturday, December 7th at Noon.
 - 2. Adult Crafting: Holiday Greens
 - a. Saturday, December 14th at 10:30 am.
 - b. Full at this point with a waitlist.
 - c. Funded by Friends of HFFL.
 - ii. January
 - 1. Scam Talk - FBI Special Agent Kimberly Blackwood
 - a. Thursday, Jan 16 at 6:00 pm.
 - b. The Recreation Commission is co-sponsoring this.
 - c. Snacks will be needed.
 - 2. French Music, History and Entertainment
 - a. Wed Jan 22 at 6:30 pm.
 - b. Friends of the Bandstand, Franco American Center in Manchester and Library French Together group are all participating.
 - c. Snacks will be needed.
 - d. Funded by Friends of HFFL.
 - iii. February
 - 1. Aquaculture
 - a. Wednesday Feb 12th at 6:30 pm.
 - b. Presenters may include UNH, Swell, SHEA, Daily Haul.
 - c. Snacks will be needed.
 - 2. Presentation by Scott Faaiia
 - a. Wednesday Feb 19th at 6:30 pm.
 - b. Katmandu Valley Festivals.
 - c. Snacks will be needed.
 - iv. March
 - 1. Game Day
 - a. Saturday, March 8th, 2-4 pm.

- b. Need Game Masters.
 - c. Snacks will be needed.
 - 2. NH Fish and Games talk about Moose
 - a. Wednesday March 12 at 6:30 pm.
 - b. Snacks will be needed
 - v. April
 - 1. Sustainability: An American Literary History
 - a. Wednesday April 16 at 6:30 pm.
 - b. NH Humanities program.
 - c. Snacks will be needed.
 - vi. May
 - 1. One Room Schoolhouse
 - a. Wednesday May 14th at 6:30 pm.
 - b. NH Humanities program.
 - c. Snacks will be needed.
 - vii. June
 - 1. AI Open Questions: Can Machines think?
 - a. Wednesday June 11th at 6:30 pm.
 - b. NH Humanities program.
 - c. Snacks will be needed.
 - viii. August
 - 1. Owls of New England
 - a. Wednesday August 13 at 6:30 pm.
 - b. The Conservation Commision will be co-hosting.
 - c. Snacks will be needed.
 - d. Funded by Friends of HFFL.
 - ix. October
 - 1. New England Curiosities
 - a. Wednesday October 22 at 6:30 pm.
 - b. The topic will be either Tea Leaves or Tarot Cards.
 - c. Snacks will be needed.
 - d. Funded by Friends of HFFL.
 - x. November
 - 1. Galileo
 - a. Wednesday November 12 at 6:30 pm.
 - b. NH Humanities program.
 - c. Snacks will be needed.
- c. Proposed Adult Budget
- i. Adult Programs
 - 1. This year \$1,700 was spent on Adult Programs.
 - 2. Proposed Adult Program Budget 2025
 - a. 3 Adult Programs: French Music, Owls and New England Curiosities.
 - b. 5 Adult Craft programs
 - c. Requesting \$3,500 for these 8 programs.
 - ii. Museum Passes
 - 1. Requesting \$3,000 for Museum Passes.
6. Youth Programming Report (Leah)

- a. Proposed Childrens Budget 2025
 - i. Summer Program
 - 1. Wildlife Encounters -June 25.
 - 2. Robot Petting Zoo - July 9.
 - 3. Highflying Dogs - July 23 (paid by library).
 - 4. Nitrogen Ice Cream - Aug 6.
 - 5. \$2,100 is requested for the 3 programs.
 - ii. Book Boxes, Art Club, Eyewitness
 - 1. \$700 is requested for this.
 - iii. Total requested for childrens \$3,500 (includes summer reading programs)
- 7. Budget
 - a. Alisha made a motion to approve a \$10,000 budget for all the 2025 requests. Motion passed with all in favor.
- 8. Volunteer Sign Ups

[Friends of the HF Library: Volunteer Signup \(signupgenius.com\)](http://signupgenius.com)

 - a. Amy will update this with all the new requests.
 - b. Maybe we should open this up for all library requests. This was a suggestion from the Outreach committee for Strategic Plan.
 - c. Looking for supporting grants and donations suggestions from the Friends and the community.
- 9. Community Collab
 - a. Historical Society, Rec Commission, PTO, Friends of HFFL, Library Trustees, Library Staff met this week.
 - b. Community Calendar
 - i. Planning on a physical mailed calendar for Q1. Rec commission will pay for first mailing.
 - ii. Trustees planning on spending \$1000 for mailing on Q2 and Friends may fund the rest.
 - iii. A month prior to quarter, all organizations will have their events in so the calendar can be created.
 - c. The intention is to reach out to additional HF orgs like Girls Scouts and Boy Scouts.
 - d. Souper Sunday (Open House)
 - i. Feb 2nd (snow date Feb 16) 12 - 2 pm
 - ii. This will be held at the Town Hall.
 - iii. Soup and bread will be served and the Rec Commission will provide alcoholic drinks.
 - iv. Each organization can have a table and serve soup at table as well as have flyers, posters etc describing that organization
 - v. There will likely be some sort of kids activity as well (TBD).
 - e. Hampton Falls Skating Party
 - i. Feb 2, 4- 6pm.
 - ii. Strawberry Banke skating rink.
 - iii. Otto pizza truck.
 - iv. Rec Commision is sponsoring this.
- 10. Charitable Gaming
 - a. The Final Report from the state commission just came out.
 - b. Pat Abrami was the chair of the committee that sponsored the report. He was not re-elected.
 - c. Amy is trying to get someone to speak to the Friends groups in Rockingham County, possibly as a virtual program in January. Deborah will reach out to Debra Altschiller to see if she is willing.
- 11. Master Agenda for Friends Meetings
 - a. September
 - i. Holiday planning

- ii. Goal Setting for the year
- b. October
 - i. Review promotional or partnership opportunities
 - ii. Programming: Are any additional Friends' events desired for the following year.
- c. November
 - i. Fundraising review – charitable gaming, corporate matches, etc.
- d. December
 - i. Director's budget request.
- e. January
 - i. Library of Things – review circulation, recommend new items, recommend items for retirement.
- f. February
 - i. National Library Week (April) Plans – Plan any awareness activities. How do we want to appreciate our library team and community supporters?
- g. March
 - i. Museum Pass - review circulation, recommend new passes, recommend passes for retirement.
- h. April
 - i. Summer Reading preview – how can Friends support adult and youth programming?
- i. May
 - i. Year-in-review – review goals we set in September and celebrate our year.
- j. June
 - i. Elections.

Meeting adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 8:03.

Next meeting: January 8 , 2024, at 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Susi Burke, Secretary