

FRIENDS OF THE AMHERST PUBLIC LIBRARY MEETING

Minutes for January 22, 2025

Called to Order: 11:15 AM

Present: Les Kreeger, Sandee Ruth, Marilyn Bronson, Marcia Kubach, Barbara Brown, Angela Cecil, Carol Inniss, Jackie Fedako, Patti Drew, Malvine Zahratka, Lila Lewis, Becky Demich, Judy Alexander, Kay Clark, Becky Denes, Marilyn Hubbard, Cookie McLoda, Liz Hui

Previous Minutes: Marilyn Bronson moved to accept the minutes from the November 20 meeting. Kay Clark seconded.
Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Marilyn Hubbard reported:

December 2024

Checking: \$14,873.70

CD: \$6,250.45

Total Assets: \$21,124.15

Book Nook for December & January: \$153.25

Report was submitted for audit.

Correspondence: The Friends received a lovely handmade card from St. Joseph School to thank us for the kindergarten reading program.

Library Liaison:

- The library plans to apply for the Dollar General grant again for this year's youth summer reading program, and would like to partner with the Friends on applying for the grant. The library received this grant in 2023, but did not receive it in 2024. Marilyn Hubbard motioned to approve the grant application; Jackie Fedako seconded.
Motion carried.
- Adult winter reading is going on through February 28. The prizes this year are bird-themed, such as a bird mug that features changing colors when hot liquid is added. The grand prize is a bird house covered with bird seed.
- A brand new program happening during the month of February is the kids cozy reading challenge, geared toward kids of all ages from ages 0-17. When kids check out books, they receive a ticket to enter to win a teddy bear.
- This year's Princess Party is coming up the first Saturday in February at 2:00pm. The Fairy Tale Foundation will have princesses on site, and there will be crafts and stories. This event is geared toward children ages 2-6.
- On Feb 5, the County Recorder's office will hold a meet & greet for residents to learn about what the office does.
- The Tiny Art Show will be on display the entire month of February. Between 80-120 canvases are expected. This year the show will be displayed on the 2nd floor only instead of both the 1st and 2nd floors.
- No-sew heart pillows will take place on February 13 and is geared towards youth ages 10-17.
- Tax preparation assistance will also be happening; please check the calendar for dates.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Auditing: Kay Clark. Kay will be working on this and will get information to Marilyn Hubbard within the week.

Author Lunch: Laurie Laubacher. No report.

Book Nook: Kay Clark. The Book Nook received \$153.25 for Dec and Nov.

Book Sale: Les Kreeger. The Spring Book Sale has been scheduled for May 8-10 and the Friends can start setting up Tuesday, May 6. Becky Denes suggested that the Friends consider setting permanent dates for the book sale; Les Kreeger motioned to approve, seconded by Marilyn Hubbard. **Motion carried.** The future book sale dates will be:

- Fall 2025: Room reserved beginning 11/4, sale set for Nov 6-8
- Spring 2026: Room reserved beginning 5/5, sale set for May 7-9
- Fall 2026: Room reserved beginning 11/3, sale set for Nov 5-7
- Spring 2027: Room reserved beginning 5/4, sale set for May 6-8
- Fall 2027: Room reserved beginning 11/2, sale set for Nov 4-6

The Friends are ready to accept book donations toward the Spring Book Sale. The library had been waiting to accept book donations until the Friends was ready with new sorting & donation procedures. Kay Clark and Sandee Ruth met with library staff to talk through procedures, and then the rest of the book sale committee members went through a quick training.

Budget: Cookie McLoda. No report.

Bulletin Board: Angela Cecil. The 100 Day Restock was displayed; the next display will feature book club books.

Bylaws: Cookie McLoda. No report.

Fundraising: Liz Hui. A couple sweatshirts were sold from the online store.

Kindergarten Reading: Victoria Mowcomber. No report.

Membership: Carol Hutner. Please remember to renew your membership for 2025!

Nominating: Sharon Vollmer. No report.

100 Day School Restock: Angela Cecil. Donations are coming in and the collections box inside the library is full; there was also a \$100 donation. There was some discussion about the schools' needs at this time of year; several Friends members with teaching expertise confirmed that there is need for supplies. There was discussion about broadening outreach up to middle, junior high, and high schools.

Publicity: Liz Hui. Liz reported that the Friends' Facebook followers are at 427, up from 403 in November, and 270 in March. Communication about the 100 Day School Restock went out via local publication and social media. The next event to publicize will be the Spring Book Sale.

Shredding: Carol Valenti. No report.

Sunshine: Kathy Michaels. No report.

Old Business: We received an application to rejoin Main Street Amherst, and the group discussed the benefits of membership. Les Kreeger moved to renew our membership; Judy Alexander seconded. **Motion carried.**

New Business: None.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Next Meeting: February 26, 2025 at 11:15 AM