

FRIENDS OF THE AMHERST PUBLIC LIBRARY MEETING

Minutes for April 23, 2025

Called to Order: 11:20 AM

Present: Kay Clark, Bev Paige, Sandee Ruth, Kathy Michaels, Marilyn Bronson, Marcia Kubach, Victoria Mowcomber, Angela Cecil, Malvine Zahratka, Kathy MacLean, Carol Inniss, Becky Demich, Barbara Neuhoﬀ, Carol Valenti, Carol Hutner, Barbara Gilbert Whitcomb, Les Kreeger, Becky Denes, Marilyn Hubbard, Cookie McLoda, Liz Hui.

Previous Minutes: Kay Clark moved to accept the minutes from the March 26 meeting. Angela Cecil seconded. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Marilyn Hubbard reported:

March 2025

Checking: \$15,698.93

CD: \$6,317.22

Total Assets: \$21,611.15

Book Nook for March: \$71.50

Report was submitted for audit.

Correspondence: Received 3 thank you notes from library staff members regarding the Library Staff Appreciation gift cards.

Library Liaison:

- Becky thanked the Friends for the Library Staff Appreciation gift cards.
- The Community Room will be cleared for the book sale starting Tuesday 5/6.
- Upcoming library events and activities update:
 - The library is gearing up for summer reading. There won't be any story times for May, but there will be a few other events like Star Wars Day for May 4.
 - DIY spa night is returning on Thursday, May 2 at 2:30pm and Monday, May 5 at 6:30pm.
 - Fifth Third Bank will present on Thursday, May 15 about understanding & building credit.
 - The adult crafternoon event will be making Cabochon Jewelry on Thursday, May 22.
- Becky provided more details about the library's wish list:
 - Cricut Maker 4 for staff and patron use, with supplies
 - Wheeled side table for the front circulation desk
 - Staff break room improvements:
 - New cabinet
 - New curtains and tension rods
 - Library logo t-shirts for staff
 - Materials for large-format printer
 - Bench for first floor library
- Becky also provided an update on library funding status in the Ohio state budget

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Auditing: Kay Clark. No report.

Author Lunch: Laurie Laubacher. No report.

Book Nook: Kay Clark. March's Book Nook proceeds were \$71.50.

Book Sale: Les Kreeger. Les reported that the book sale signup list has gone out. There are arrangements being made for teen helpers to move boxes of books up to the community room for setup. Pricing will continue to be donation-based.

Budget: Cookie McLoda. Cookie presented the proposed budget. Discussion items included adding in a line item for misc expenses, bingo for Main Street Amherst, the funding level for Youth Services and Adult Services, increasing the kindergarten books budget from \$900 to \$1,200, increasing the youth services books budget from \$200 to \$500, and revising a line item under Youth Services to “program support”. An updated budget will be presented at the next meeting for a vote.

Bulletin Board: Angela Cecil. Angela noted that the community shredding event is up, and the book sale hours will go up.

Bylaws: Cookie McLoda. None.

Fundraising: Liz Hui. Shirts made with athletic performance material have been launched on the Bonfire website. A suggestion was made to purchase permanent shirts for the Friends to display during book sales.

Kindergarten Reading: Victoria Mowcomber. A book will be selected this summer to present to the Friends.

Membership: Carol Hutner. Carol reported membership is at 95 members.

Nominating: TBD. No report. A call was for anyone who would like to chair the nominating committee.

100 Day School Restock: Angela Cecil. No report.

Publicity: Liz Hui. Liz reported that the Friends’ Facebook followers are at 461, up from 452 in March 2025 and 270 in March 2024. Communications about the book sale have been sent out to the papers and other outlets.

Shredding: Carol Valenti. The Community Shredding Event is scheduled on July 12 from 9am-12noon or until truck is full.

Sunshine: Kathy Michaels. A card was requested for Judy Alexander.

Old Business: Barb Neuhoﬀ was thanked for purchasing the library staff appreciation gift cards. The Friends received a donation in memory of Sharon Vollmer for \$100; it was requested that these funds go toward a wheelchair for the library.

New Business: The library’s wish list items were discussed. Les Kreeger motioned to allocate \$2,500 for the wish list. Marilyn Hubbard seconded. **Motion passed.**

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 12:22 PM.

Next Meeting: May 28, 2025 at 11:15 AM