

FRIENDS OF THE AMHERST PUBLIC LIBRARY MEETING

Minutes for June 25, 2025

Called to Order: 11:16 AM

Present: Peaches Ogbuji, Sandee Ruth, Marcia Kubach, Kathy Michaels, Barbara Brown, Angela Cecil, Victoria Mowcomber, Carol Valenti, Becky Demich, Laurie Laubacher, Carol Hutner, Kay Clark, Bev Paige, Becky Denes, Marilyn Hubbard, Cookie McLoda, Liz Hui.

Previous Minutes: Becky Demich moved to accept the minutes from the May 28 meeting. Peaches Ogbuji seconded. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Marilyn Hubbard reported:

May 27, 2025 – June 24, 2025

Checking: \$15,647.80

CD: \$6,362.89

Total Assets: \$22,010.69

Book Nook for April: \$50.41

Report was submitted for audit.

Correspondence: None.

Library Liaison:

- Becky Denes encouraged the Friends to take a look at the events calendar as there is a lot happening this year!
- The tie dye event has been moved to Tuesday, July 1 at 6:30pm due to the heat.
- The first meeting for the youth book club has taken place; it has full attendance and has been going well.
- On July 10 the library will hold a mocktail mixology event, where patrons can make their own mocktails.
- Two weeks later will be the adult & teen paint & sip event using the leftovers from mocktail mixology. This event is for ages 12 and up as long as an adult is present.
- A slide for Shred Day has been put up on the library display screens.
- The wheelchair has arrived and is ready for use; the memorial plaque in honor of Sharon Vollmer is on order.
- Book donation update: donated books will be moved into the Friends closet.
- The library has hired an Outreach Services Specialist; feel free to promote this service to any who may benefit.
- A bench has been ordered for the downstairs lobby and will likely arrive in a couple weeks.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Auditing: Kay Clark. No report.

Author Lunch: Laurie Laubacher. The luncheon will take place on October 16, featuring author Andrew Graff. Cookie McLoda has the application for the Sunset Terrace venue.

Book Nook: Kay Clark. April's Book Nook proceeds were \$50.41. Patrons have been asking if some recently purged audiobooks can be put out onto the Book Nook shelves.

Book Sale: Les Kreeger. Dates are set for Nov 6-8. No report.

Budget: Cookie McLoda. Cookie presented a revised budget which included adjusting the Youth Services budget up to \$2,400 for a total budget of \$12,200. Peaches Ogbuji made a motion to approve the new budget; Marilyn Hubbard seconded. **Motion carried.**

Bulletin Board: Angela Cecil. No report.

Bylaws: Cookie McLoda. No report.

Fundraising: Liz Hui. Per last month's bulk order discussion, Liz updated pricing on the Bonfire website for all items except 1, which needs to completed its current selling cycle. Prices are as low as they can possibly be set. Once all items are priced to their lowest available pricing, Liz will email the group and coordinate an order to one location so there is reduced shipping cost. We can also think about ordering some shirts for the Friends to display at events.

Kindergarten Reading: Victoria Mowcomber. The Kindergarten Reading theme this year is friendship and mindfulness. The titles that have been ordered for review are The Sloth Who Slowed Us Down, Strictly No Elephants, and Mindful Days. Prices have gone up and we will likely need up to \$1,500 to purchase books this year. An amended budget was requested for this; an additional \$300 was added to the kindergarten reading budget. Peaches Ogbuji motioned to approve this addition, bringing the budget total to \$12,500. Marilyn Hubbard seconded, **motion carried**. There was discussion about making stickers & bookmarks for the books. We will need volunteers to read, and will put out a call for volunteers closer to October.

Membership: Carol Hutner. Carol reported that the Friends is currently at 109 members.

Nominating: TBD. Barb Brown & Kay Clark are on the committee, Barb Brown will serve as chair.

100 Day School Restock: Angela Cecil. No report.

Publicity: Liz Hui. Liz reported that the Friends' Facebook page added 6 more followers this month and is up to 481, up from 270 in March 2024. The shredding event has been sent to the usual outlets. The next communications to go out will be for kindergarten reading, the author luncheon, and the fall book sale.

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

Sunshine: Kathy Michaels. A card was passed around for Judy Alexander and Bill Strohm. Cards were requested for Marilyn Bronson and Maureen Dix.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

- Cookie McLoda passed around a committee membership list for members to review and add/remove themselves from committees for 2025.
- Cookie McLoda is organizing the Friends' participation in the Main Street Amherst basket bingo and a check was written to support that event.
- Liz Hui will be out of town at July's meeting, and will need someone to take minutes next month. Both Angela Cecil and Peaches Ogbuji volunteered to take minutes.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 12:07 PM.

Next Meeting: July 23, 2025 at 11:15 AM