

FRIENDS OF THE AMHERST PUBLIC LIBRARY MEETING

Minutes for July 22, 2026

Called to Order: 11:16 AM

Present: Sandee Ruth, Carol Hutner, Carol McKee, Angela Cecil, Barbara Brown, Barbara Gilbert Whitcomb, Jackie Fedacko, Victoria Mowcomber, Rhonda Neuhoff, Laurie Laubacher, Patti Drew, Marcia Kubach, Becky Denes, Les Kreeger, Cookie McLoda, Lila Lewis, Liz Hui.

Previous Minutes: **Patti Drew** moved to accept the minutes from the June 24 meeting. **Jackie Fedako** seconded. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Les Kreeger reported on behalf of Marilyn Hubbard:

June 24, 2026 – July 22, 2026

Checking: \$14,550.65

CD: \$5,015.15

Total Assets: \$19,566.80

Book Nook for June-July: \$151

Report was submitted for audit.

Correspondence: None.

Library Liaison:

- Becky Denes reported that the Summer Reading Fun Fair will Wednesday, July 29 and any volunteers would be appreciated. Colonial games, including trap ball and making whirligigs, will be included as part of the Fun Fair outside because that event was unfortunately canceled last week due to heat. There will be Touch A Truck, a bounce house, and a fitness challenge presented by Fit Body Boot Camp.
- July 23 will begin a 2-week event for patrons who would like to learn how to make clay pendant necklaces.
- August 1-8 is Leave a Puzzle, Take a Puzzle outside the community room.
- The annual Craft Swap will be August 29. Donation of craft supplies will begin Monday, August 24, and the library will need volunteers during that week to sort craft supplies.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Auditing: Kay Clark. No report.

Author Lunch: Laurie Laubacher. No report.

Book Nook: Kay Clark. June's proceeds were \$151.

Book Sale: Les Kreeger. On August 1, we will start accepting book donations again.

Budget: Cookie McLoda. **Carol Hutner** motioned to increase the shredding budget from \$150 to \$200. **Laurie Laubacher** seconded. Motion carried.

Bulletin Board: Angela Cecil. No report.

Bylaws: Cookie McLoda. No report.

Fundraising: Liz Hui. No report.

Kindergarten Reading: Victoria Mowcomber. Victoria requested an increase in budget from \$1,500 to \$2,200 to cover the cost of purchasing this year's books. **Rhonda Neuhoﬀ** motioned. **Sandee Ruth** seconded. **Motion carried.** The Friends will be reading to 11 classrooms at Powers Elementary, 6 classrooms at Firelands Elementary, and 1 classroom at St. Joe's. Reading dates will likely be the second or third week of October, and the signup to volunteer to read will come out in a few weeks.

Membership: Carol Hutner. Carol reported that current membership is at 73 members.

Nominating: Barb Brown. No report.

100 Day School Restock: Angela Cecil. No report.

Publicity: Liz Hui. The Friends' Facebook followers are up to 569, up from 270 in March 2024.

Shredding: Rhonda Neuhoﬀ. Rhonda reported that the shredding event went very smoothly this year. 180 cars came through and the trucks took almost 6,000 pounds of shredding. Rhonda reported that many of the cars kindly tipped the scout troop for their assistance.

Sunshine: Kathy Michaels. No report.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Main Street Amherst has asked the Friends to participate in purse bingo, which will be held in October 2026 and April 2027. For a \$200 sponsorship, the Friends will have their name listed on the purse, the slideshow, and recognition on the Amherst Eagles TV screen. The other sponsorship level is \$100 to receive some of the prior acknowledgments listed. Discussion took place about whether to sponsor at the \$100 or \$200 level, and about whether the budget would need to be increased to do so. **Les Kreeger** motioned to increase the budget from \$125 to \$200 and sponsor at the a \$200 level. **Patti Drew** seconded. **Motion carried.**

The Friends received a request from John Sekletar for a donation towards the creation and installation of a Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier statue at the Patriots Park Memorial. Discussion took place about tying a library event in with the statue unveiling which is scheduled to occur near Memorial Day in 2027. **Angela Cecil** motioned to contribute \$500. **Carol McKee** seconded. **Motion carried.**

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 12:01 PM.

Next Meeting: August 26, 2026 at 11:15 AM