Minutes of the Friends of the Hampton Falls Free Library

Date: Thursday Feb 5, 2026; Called to order at 6:40 pm.

Present: Susi Burke, Amy Dorgan, Leah Knowlton, Joanna Meighan, Alisha Robert, Judy Wilson
On Zoom: Allie Dipietro **Liaison from the Trustees:** None

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Judy:** research options at Staples for copying bookmarks.
- **Alisha**: purchase a domain for the Friends from Namecheap.com
- **All**: Library volunteer opportunities are on this new volunteer link. Allie will move all of the tasks currently on that site to the Friends email and add Little Free Library tasks.
- **All**: Refreshments are needed for the February 11th program.

PARKING LOT:

- **March 2026 meeting**: Discuss Portsmouth Historical Society.
- 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 Jan 2026 Minutes; Motion passed with all in favor.
2. Goals for this cycle
    a. Awareness – increase awareness of Friends and how we support the library.
    b. Membership – increase membership by 5.
3. Treasurer's report
    a. Current Balance: $40,838.98. Note: This includes some garden donations.
4. Trustee Report
    a. No Trustees present.
    b. Linda, Joanna and Amy met recently. They discussed the Friend possibly supporting accessibility areas,including technology like microphones. No specific asks now but there was a good discussion.
5. Director's Report (Joanna)
    a. See below for details submitted prior to meeting.
    b. Program participation is much higher and it appears that more people are in the building these days.
    c. A request was made to do more OM yoga in the library at the Mindful Morning this past Saturday. This would need someone other than Library Staff to run this since they are at capacity. Deborah, is this something you might be interested in?
    d. Need refreshments for Feb 11th Secretary of State program.
    e. NHPBS (Ch 11) is showing Independent Lens: The Librarians, Monday Feb 9th, 10 pm. Amy may record it so the Friends can do a watch party.
6. Youth Programming Report (Leah)

a. Glow in Dark Mini Golf will be held during school vacation week in Feb. Needs more marketing.

7. Library of Things
   a. Maybe combine Mindfulness and Yoga boxes.
   b. Yoto is very popular but usually one is available so we don't need more right now.
   c. Could add a highlight for a Library of Things item in each newsletter.
   d. Maybe do a night sky program to go along with the telescope.
8. Volunteer Sign Ups
   Allie has volunteered to administer the volunteer sign up. She has access to this new volunteer link set up by Laura but it is Laura's personal and work account. Allie will move the library tasks to Friends gmail account. Then she will add the little free library tasks for every two weeks starting on Sundays. Allie needs the password for this email.
9. Friends Gmail and Drive: We will apply for the free Google Workspace which will allow us to have multiple Friends emails and manage google drive space more effectively. We need a domain to use so Alisha will get that from Namecheap.
10. Bookmarks: We will give out bookmarks as a way to promote awareness of the Friends. Susi has created 4 different floral styles on one 7 x 10 page. Judy will find out what the cost of 25 copies of the sheet with the 4 bookmarks would be at Staples on a heavy weight, possibly textured paper. We will add a color card stock/art paper backing and a ribbon. A sticker will be added to the back promoting the Friends with a join or donate request. Unsure whether we will charge a small fee or not. Maybe a donation bucket and have information on a board about the Friends where the bookmarks are located.

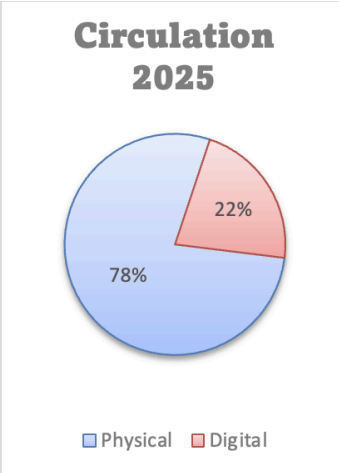
Meeting adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 7:58.

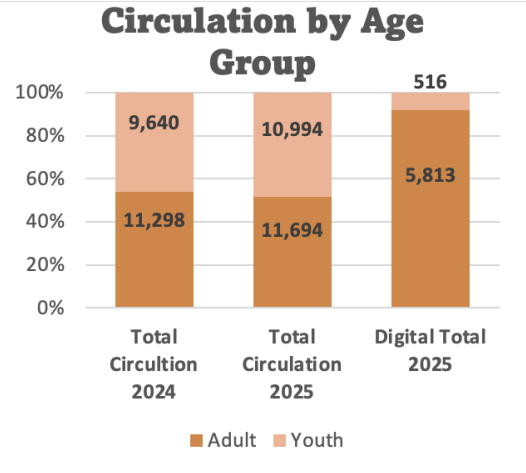
Next meeting: Wed March 4, 2026, at 6:30 pm

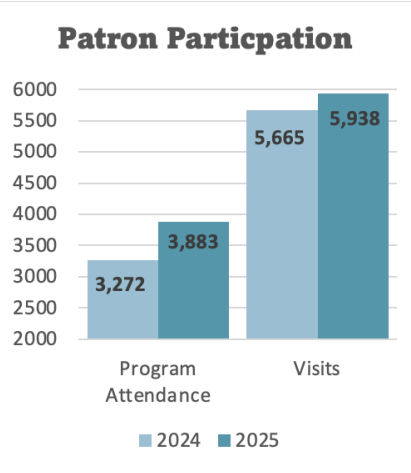
Respectfully submitted,
Susi Burke, Secretary

DIRECTORS REPORT (sent via email before meeting):

2025 Summary:







Building:

- Art Rails Installed
- ADA Doors fully operational with push buttons

Campus Landscape Project:

- Library Website updated to include a tab on the home page and a link to a Discovery Garden Information Page.

Adult Programs:

French Together Tuesdays 11-noon (Attendance range 7-10 weekly)
Knitwits Tuesdays 3-5pm (Attendance range 4-5 weekly)
La Conexión Española Wednesdays 5-6pm (Attendance range 5-6 weekly)
Digital Discovery Fridays 2-4pm (Attendance range 1-3 weekly)

- Jan 2 Olympic Family Reading Challenge Begins
- Jan 3 The *YA Not* Book Club: *Blood Water Paint* **by Joy McCullough (5)**
- Jan 3 Game Day (7)
- Jan 10: Adult Craft: Zentangle (23)
- Jan 14 NHFG Moose (24)
- Jan 21 *Travels with Scott Faiia: The Bung Dyo Festival in Kathmandu* (15)
- Jan 24 Tech Connect: *Smart Phones Made Easy* (3)
- Jan 28/Jan 30 Adult Book Club *Invisible Women: Data Bias in a World Designed for Men by Caroline Criado Perez* (9, 3)
- Jan 31 Mindful Morning: Craft, Zoom instruction, and Ompractice Session (8)

Upcoming Events:

- Feb 7 *YA Not* Book Club: *Monday's Not Coming* **by Tiffany D. Jackson**
- Feb 7 Game Day
- Feb 11 Civics 101 with NH Secretary of State
- Feb 25/27 Adult Book Club: *The House is on Fire* by Rachel Beanland
- Feb 27 Mini Golf at the Library
- Feb 28 Tech Connect
- Feb 28 Olympic Family Reading Challenge Ends

Youth Programs:

- Under 5 story times: Tuesday brown bag at noon and Thursday morning
- After school story times: Tuesday and Thursday sessions
- Kindergarten club: Wednesday after school
- Silent Reading Club-Every Friday after school

- Jan 14 Lego Club (5)
- Jan 21 Art Club (2)
- Jan 22 Messy Play (7)
- Feb 4 Lego Club (6)

Upcoming Events:

- Feb 11 Art Club

- Feb 17 Pick Up Teen Book Boxes
- Feb 18 Pokemon Club
- Feb 19 Messy Play