

# Minutes of the Friends of the Hampton Falls Free Library

**Date:** Wednesday Feb 7, 2024; Called to order at 6:33 pm.

**Present:** Nancy Axelson, Susi Burke, Amy Dorgan, Leah Knowlton, Desiree Potter, Donna Onacki, Deborah Regan, Jane Shanahan, Erin Sniderman (for promotional budget discussion), Judy Wilson. Liaison from the Trustees: Beth Forgione.

## Discussed:

### 1. Jan Minutes

Jane made a motion to approve the January 2023 Minutes; Motion passed with all in favor, Desiree abstained since she wasn't there in January.

### 2. Treasurer's report

a. Current Balance: Alisha was not in attendance so we don't have an updated balance. Previous Month balance: \$51,927.37

b. *Updates Balance per Alisha's 2/8/24 email = \$51,886.83*

c. March is Hannaford Community Bag month; \$1 per bag to the friends. To spread the word, we will ask Joanna to put it in the newsletter. Susi will try to schedule a post on the Friends FB page if possible tonight but if not, Leah will post on Hampton Falls Library group.

d. *Currently there is no gaming schedule as per 2/9/24 email update with our contact Brigit Ordway.*

### 3. Director's Report - Joanna was not here. Donna gave the Director's report in her place.

a. Donna gave feedback on the discussion about the warrant article for the Strategic Plan from the deliberative session. It was the last article to be discussed. One question was asked about the amount. Linda Coe explained why the amount is what it is and the article was accepted as is.

b. There was a discussion about a promotional budget to market the library. Erin came up with a budget of \$2000 for banners, mailings, business cards, table cloths, etc. as a funding request for the Friends.

i. This would fund items for going to community events around town, programs outside the library like Children's Craft Day, Farmer's Market, Avesta Housing Community Day.

ii. This would also include three town wide mailings a year in collaboration with Friends with events and what's happening at the library.

iii. This would get the library promotion started but it will need ongoing support after this year. Beth said the Trustees would look at this during budget time next year.

iv. Deborah made a motion for \$2000 for a promotional budget for the library; Motion passed with all in favor.

c. Strategic Plan - Consultant will give an unbiased neutral approach, facilitate forums and one on one interviews particularly those that don't come into the library.

#### d. Completed Programs

i. Orchard Program with Jared Kane, Jan 10th

1. 23 people; very well received.

2. People enjoyed the refreshments as well as the program.

3. It's possible he will be invited back in Fall for apple tasting.

#### e. Upcoming Programs

- i. French Conversations
    - 1. Every Tuesday from 11-12.
    - 2. Drop in, no need to sign up.
    - 3. Wendy and Donna will run it.
  - ii. Paper Piecing with Amy Dorgan
    - 1. 2 sessions on Feb 17th; 10 people each, 10-12 pm and 12-2 pm.
    - 2. Both sessions are sold out.
  - iii. Journey to Nepal with Scott Faiia
    - 1. Feb 21st at 6:30.
    - 2. Refreshments - Desiree will do two dozen cookies and Judy will do the small 24 pack water.
  - iv. Connecting with Technology
    - 1. Wendy Harrington will be leading this.
    - 2. Saturday, Feb 24th 11-12,
    - 3. First one will be about Cloud based file systems (using Google Drive).
- 4. Youth Services Report - Leah
  - a. YA Book Club this Saturday at 10:30.
  - b. 12 Teen Book Boxes themed sunshine will be going out in Feb.
  - c. Need to find ways to reach out to people that aren't currently using the library. The strategic plan will come at a good time.
- 5. Providing Support for Strategic Plan
  - a. Strategic Plan Handout
    - i. Susi share canva file with Desiree and Leah.
    - ii. Put in Town Hall bulletin Board
    - iii. Put
    - iv. Stash at Front Desk
    - v. Put in Books for Little Free Library
  - b. Update Friends Bulletin Board for support of Strategic Plan next week.
- 6. Trustees
  - a. Meet and Greet with Trustees and Friends
  - b. Potential Date: Wednesday April 10, 6:30, National Library Week. Begin with a recap of the strategic plan. The rest of the time will be social.
- 7. Little Free Library Sign Ups
 

[Friends of the HF Library: Stock Little Free Library \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com) Link updated 2/8/24

  - a. Signups through mid-April
- 8. Mission Statement Brainstorming
  - a. Susi's draft: "Facilitating access, engagement, and enrichment for community members of all ages in Hampton Falls in collaboration with the librarian and Trustees."
  - b. Desiree's Draft: "Our focus is to **ignite (champion/advocate) community engagement** through supplemental programs that benefit library patrons of all ages."
  - c. Key thoughts:
    - i. Advocacy/Championing, Advocate for library.
    - ii. Community members of all ages
    - iii. Engagement
    - iv. Enrichment
    - v. Power of knowledge
    - vi. Community center
    - vii. Promote learning

- viii. Enrichment
  - ix. Engagement
  - x. Education
  - xi. Enrichment
  - xii. Discovery
9. ALA: Amy will discuss this at the next meeting. She joined ALA and watched some webinars on Friends groups and what they can and can't do.
10. Suggestion from Judy to buy pickleball racquets for the Library Internet of Things. Possibly a Karaoke machine as well? We will revisit this at the next meeting.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- **Desiree:** will bake two dozen cookies for the Journal to Nepal program.
- **Judy:** will bring a 24 pack of small water for the Journal to Nepal program.
- **Susi:** will schedule a post on the Friends FB page for Hannaford Bag program.
- **Leah:** will post on Hannaford Bag program info on Hampton Falls Library group.
- **Joanna:** We request that the info on the Hannaford Bag program gets added to the newsletter for March.
- **Susi:** will share Strategic Plan Handout Canva file with Desiree and Leah.
- **Susi:** will email Strategic Plan to Handout to everyone along with minutes.

**Meeting adjourned:** Meeting adjourned at 8:00.

**Next meeting:**

Mar 6 , 2024, at 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Susi Burke, Secretary