

Minutes of the Friends of the Hampton Falls Free Library

Date: Wednesday Apr 2, 2025; Called to order at 6:30 pm.

Present: Susi Burke, Allie DiPietro, Amy Dorgan, Leah Knowlton, Val Marshall, Joanna Meighan, Deborah Regan, Alisha Roberts, Judy Wilson. Liaison from the Trustees: No one attended.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **All:** Select dates for the [Friends of the HF Library: Volunteer Signup \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com). There are June dates that need to be filled.
- **Leah:** Send out the sheet of local businesses from last year to everyone.
- **Susi:** Give access to Friends FB page to Deborah (completed)

PARKING LOT:

- Explore the possibility of a Repair Clinic - we would need a champion for this.
- Review potential craft subscriptions.

DISCUSSED:

1. Minutes
 - a. Val made a motion to approve the March 2025 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: \$45,276.22
 - b. \$48 received from Hampton Hannaford.
 - c. \$50 received from the Berardi Family.
4. Trustee Report
 - a. No Trustee attended tonight. Laura is at the Selectman meeting tonight.
 - b. Joanna gave a report on some projects in the works. ADA Doors were discussed. The Select Board is open to revamping town hall for ADA compliance so this will proceed as a larger town wide project for now.
5. Director's Report (Joanna)
 - a. Completed Programs
 - i. Cockade Craft program
 1. 5 people attended from the DAR and they plan to bring this to other area libraries.
 - ii. Invasive species program
 1. The Conservation Commission co-sponsored this event.
 2. 17 people attended.
 - iii. English Paper Piecing
 1. 2nd program for this craft. Turnout was lower this time.
 - iv. Cookbook Club

1. 7 attended.
- b. Upcoming Programs
 - i. Puzzle Competition
 1. Saturday, April 5th at 1- 4 pm.
 2. 7 teams have signed up.
 - ii. Family Crafting at the Library: Bird Boxes
 1. Saturday, April 12th, 2 sessions: 10:15 am and 12:15pm.
 2. Co-sponsored with the Conservation Commission.
 - iii. Sustainability: An American Literary History with Abby Goode
 1. Wednesday, April 16th at 6:30pm.
 2. Sponsored by New Hampshire Humanities and the Friends of the Library.
 3. Need snacks for this program.
 - iv. Technet
 1. Bringing Family Stories to Life.
 2. Wednesday, April 30th at 6:30 pm.
 - v. Game Day and Chess Club (Monthly)
 1. Saturday, May 3rd 1- 4 pm.
 2. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.
- c. Strategic Plan
 - i. Strategic groups have been meeting.
 - ii. Outreach group sent a flyer out to new residents welcoming them to the library.
 - iii. Space group is looking at modifying furniture layout and installation of art rails.
 - iv. Erin is working on the Garden Plan.
 1. She is applying for grants in the next month or so.
 2. The garden will start with the Conservation Commission garden first since they have a grant that needs to be used soon.
- d. OM Practice
 - i. Spring Reset Challenge this month.
 - ii. Deborah has done 4 classes and liked all of them.
6. Youth Programming Report (Leah)
 - a. Puzzle Competition
 - i. Amy will bring snacks, more non-sticky snacks are needed.
 - ii. 7 teams signed up.
 - iii. Prizes include Gift Cards from Diversions and puzzle sorting trays.
 - b. Game Day Monthly - 2 games featured a month.
 - i. 35 people attended the first one.
 - c. Summer Reading
 - i. Looking for help to get prizes.
 - ii. Leah will send out the sheet of local businesses from last year.
 - iii. Theme: Level Up at your Library. Focus on Puzzles and Games.
7. Charitable Gaming
 - a. Judy emailed The Brook about the Garden project and didn't hear back. She emailed Geri and Geri mentioned that they don't usually respond to emails. Geri was very excited about the sensory garden and storywalk and is bumping it up to Mike and Andre who run The Brook.
8. Library of Things Spring Items Promotion
 - a. Label Maker
 - b. Birding Backpack
 - c. Yoga Box

9. Volunteer Sign Ups

[Friends of the HF Library: Volunteer Signup \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com)

10. Museum Passes

- a. [Charmingfare Farms](#)- do they have library passes?
- b. SEE museum may be a good option.
- c. Do [3S Artspace](#) or [Music Hall](#) have library membership options? It does not appear that they do.

11. Legislative updates

- a. Issues exist both at the National and State level. Deborah used 5call.org which will give you the phone information for your representatives.
- b. A lot of people contacted the State House and that had an impact.
- c. All Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) personnel were put on administrative leave as of Monday.
- d. Personal stories matter. Doesn't need to be long but if you email it helps to mention how you are personally affected.

12. Active Advocates for Library

- a. Volunteer policy needs updating because of insurance so pursuing active advocates is on hold until that is completed.

13. Art Installations

- a. Will Friends take this on?
- b. Finding local artists.
- c. Arranging time for library reception.

14. National Library Week in April

- a. Susi made a motion to cover costs for Deborah's purchases. Motion passed with all in favor.

Meeting adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 8:03.

Next meeting: May 7 , 2025, at 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Susi Burke, Secretary