

# Minutes of the Friends of the Hampton Falls Free Library

**Date:** Wednesday June 4, 2024; Called to order at 6:35 pm.

**Present:** Amy Dorgan, Leah Knowlton, Joanna Meighan, Donna Onacki, Deborah Regan, Alisha Roberts, Jane Shanahan, Judy Wilson

## **ACTION ITEMS:**

- **All:** Supply items for Prize baskets. BRing in by June 25th.
- **Deborah and Amy:** will provide snacks for Home Organizing, June 12th 6:30pm.
- **Donna:** will provide snacks for Book Club on June 26th, 6:30pm.
- **Judy:** will provide snacks for Stone Walls on July 10th at 6:30pm.
- **Judy:** will write a post on the Indian Museum for Friends section in the next Library newsletter.
- **Amy:** will create a Bulletin Board about the Friends to put up at events by the Organizing event next Wed.

## **Discussed:**

1. Minutes
  - a. Donna made a motion to approve the May 2024 Minutes; Motion passed with all in favor.
  - b. Amy made a motion to approve April Minutes; Motion passed with all in favor.
2. Treasurer's report
  - a. Current Balance: \$50,296.13
  - b. All checks have cleared.
  - c. The Aquarium cashed our check in April but has not provided the pass. Three calls have been made but no response. Amy will go in person if no response by Thursday.
3. Trustees Report (given by Joanna)
  - a. Trustees are working on a 5 year plan for the Library building.
  - b. The Library of Things policy and Display policy are being worked on and should be ready by the end of the summer.
4. Director's Report
  - a. Completed Programs
    - i. Gift Bag Junk Journals
      1. 12 people attended.
    - ii. Genealogy
      1. 4 people attended.
    - iii. Button Up
      1. About 20 people attended; some attended via Zoom.
    - iv. Tech Connect
      1. 13 people attended.
  - b. Upcoming Programs
    - i. Pressed Flowers Craft
      1. Saturday, June 8th, 2 Sessions: 10:30-noon and 12:30-2:00.
      2. There are still openings for this event so feel free to share.

- ii. Home Organizing with Hello Simplified's Alyssa Bailey
      - 1. Wednesday, June 12th 6:30pm.
      - 2. Deborah and Amy will provide snacks.
    - iii. NH Humanities Book Club
      - 1. Wednesday, June 26th, 6:30pm.
      - 2. The Attack by Yasmina Khadra
      - 3. Free copies of the book are available.
      - 4. Donna will provide refreshments.
    - iv. New England Stone Walls with Kevin Gardener
      - 1. Wednesday, July 10th at 6:30pm.
      - 2. Judy will provide refreshments.
  - c. Summer Reading
    - i. Starts on June 23rd.
  - d. Lafayette Programs
    - i. Coordinating with the Historical Society on programs about the Marquis de Lafayette.
    - ii. [American Friends of Lafayette](#)
      - 1. The American Friends of Lafayette are creating a replication of Lafayette's Farewell Tour as part of their Bicentennial celebration of that tour.
      - 2. They will be re-creating his steps and going to every town he went to on that tour. For 13 months, 50 years after the revolutionary war, Lafayette did a farewell tour of the US and Hampton Falls was on the list.
      - 3. He came to Hampton Falls on Sept 1, 1824.
      - 4. On Sept 1, 2024, there will be a "Tea with the Marquis". at 8am. on the Commons.
      - 5. They submitted some stories in an app called Travel Storys - Hampton Falls comes up first on the list for that story.
    - iii. August will be Layette themed.
      - 1. August 14th will be a family craft program at the library: Making Cockades (a ribbon craft) in two sessions at 4 pm and 6 pm.
      - 2. The Book Group on August 21st will be "Lafayette in the Somewhat United States"
      - 3. On August 28th Alan Hoffman, the President of the American Friends of Lafayette will do a presentation called "Lafayette and Human Rights" at 6:30pm.
  - e. Cookbook club
    - i. Aug 10th is the next meeting.
  - f. Strategic Plan
    - i. Survey is out and some responses have been received. There are some issues using iPads.
    - ii. The survey will be open until July 12th.
    - iii. Postcards will be available to pass out at different venues to encourage non library users to complete the survey..
    - iv. Joanna will send out an executive summary when the survey is complete.
  - g. Indian Museum
    - i. We want to promote the Indian Museum. Judy will write a post about it for the Friends section of the next newsletter with some pictures. Renewal should be due on this soon?
- 5. Leah
  - a. Summer Reading
    - i. Leah gave an update and schedule for summer reading.

- ii. There will be a craft most weeks, 2 story times a week and messy plays on Fridays.
  - iii. There will be a Lego club, Comic Club and Art Club as well.
  - iv. We reviewed [the spreadsheet for prizes](#).
- b. The Friends will contribute craft items for a basket. Bring items in through June 25th and Donna will coordinate the basket.
- c. Leah would like to purchase a Sensory Table for the Children's area. This will be added to the budget.
- 6. Little Free Library Sign Ups  
[Friends of the HF Library: Stock Little Free Library \(signupgenius.com\)](#)
  - a. Signups are complete through July . There are some August weeks that need filling.
- 7. Library of Borrowed Things
  - a. The new display is working well.
  - b. The Friends should change display for the seasons. In September, we will review it to bring forward things that are relevant to fall.
- 8. Visibility for Friends
  - a. Bookmarks with Museum Passes for Friends should mention Friends. We can leave these on seats at different Library Events.
  - b. School Flyers worked well, maybe we should do more of this.
  - c. We want to do at least one mailed flyer to see how it works.
  - d. A Friend should get up at events to talk about the Friends group and what we do. Amy will do the organizing event on June 12th. Deborah will do the July Walls event.
  - e. Amy will create a Bulletin Board about the Friends to put up at events with the donation box. We should create a Friends Member Application that can be printed on envelopes. Also, include QR code for payment for Paypal or Venmo. Alicia will try to make payment that way possible.
  - f. Maybe we should create name tags that say ask me about the Friends.
  - g. Amy brought up creating a Logo specifically for the Friends. We will explore this in the fall.
  - h. Newsletter posts each month for the friends should be around events and museums and written by a specific Friend in first person.
  - i. National Friends of Library week happens in the 3rd week in October . Maybe we can plan an event for that.
- 9. Mission Statement
  - a. The purpose of the Friends of the HFFL is to:
    - i. support the library by funding programs, resources, and community enrichment to supplement the library operating budget;
    - ii. promote awareness and advocate the use of library resources and
    - iii. champion public support of the library
  - b. Identity Statement  
 The Friends of HFFL is a 501(c)3 organization comprised of dedicated volunteers across the community
  - c. Judy made a motion to do a provisional acceptance for marketing purposes through the summer for this mission statement. Motion was approved.
  - d. Need to update by-laws but first we need to post in a public place, notify members and wait 30 days to vote. We will post in September and vote in October.
  - e. September is when dues are due and need to pay in order to be a voting member.
- 10. Budget
  - a. [Link to spreadsheet](#)
  - b. Jane made a motion to approve the budget; Motion was approved with all in favor.
- 11. Officers Election
  - a. Donna proposed this slate of officers

- i. Chair: Amy
  - ii. Vice Chair: Deborah
  - iii. Vice chair: Judy
  - iv. Secretary: Susi
  - v. Treasury: Alicia
- b. Jane made a motion to accept this slate of officers; Motion was approved with all in favor.

**Meeting adjourned:** Meeting adjourned at 8:25.

**Next meeting:** September 4 , 2024, at 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Susi Burke, Secretary