# Minutes of the Friends of the Hampton Falls Free Library

**Date:** Thursday October 7, 2026; Called to order at 6:35 pm.

**Present:** Susi Burke, Allie DiPietro, Amy Dorgan, Leah Knowlton, Joanna Meighan, Deborah Regan, Judy Wilson
**Liaison from the Trustees:** None

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- **Amy:** Send the latest copy of By Laws to Friends.
- **Susi**: Make copies of bookmarks at Staples.
- **All**: Basket raffle sign up.
- **All**: Library volunteer opportunities are on this volunteer link.
- **All**: Bring Dues in November.

**PARKING LOT:**

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

**DISCUSSED:**

1. Minutes
    a. Judy made a motion to approve the June 2026 and September 2026 Minutes. The motion was unanimously approved for both.
2. The Brook
    a. Allie reached out to many people at the Brook. We are on a long list; they will be setting the schedule for next year soon. Mike and Laurie were Deborah's contacts.
3. Bookmarks
    a. Susi shared sample bookmarks
    b. She will create 2 separate sheets
        i. 4 Halloween related ones on one sheet. Make 15 copies.
        ii. 5 more fall/general themes on the other sheet . The Lamppost and Haunted House will go on both. Make 10 copies.
        iii. Susi will cut the bookmarks once printed and Amy will hole punch and add ribbon so they will be ready to hand out at the Boo Bash.
4. Goals for this cycle
    a. New Logo completed for the Friends.
    b. We will create a fundraising goal but this will depend on whether we get gambling charity money or not as the difference would be significant.
5. Treasurer's report
    a. No Treasurer's report this month.
    b. There was a $6000 donation for the garden. $5500 is to go to irrigation, $500 will go into the garden fund.
6. Trustee Report
    a. No Trustees present.

7. Director and Youth Programming's Report (Joanna/Leah)
    a. The director's report was emailed in advance of the meeting.
    b. Book Sale
        i. $3,600 total from book and yard sale.
        ii. Prices were slightly raised but participation remained really good.
        iii. Friends can be more involved next year.
    c. Wednesday 14th
        i. Author Visit for
    d. Upcoming programs
        i. October 23 at 5-7, Boo Bash. We will try to have bookmarks ready to hand out at this event. Leah is looking for volunteer to help set up tent. Susi volunteered.
        ii. At the Winter Market there will be a basket to support St Vincent De Paul. Looking for individuals to sign up to provide items for this. Click this link to sign up.
    e. Linda Coe won the New Hampshire Library Trustees Association's Lillian Edelmann Trustee of the Year award.
        i. On Oct 22, 3pm at Trustee Meeting, there will be a brief ceremony for Linda.
        ii. In late winter/spring we may host an event that honors all volunteers and highlight Linda at that event.
        iii. See Public Announcement below after minutes.
    f. FBI Programs went well and had a highly engaged audience.
    g. Youth programming
        i. The Kindergarten club's first meeting was great.
        ii. Boo Bash is on Oct 23. Leah will attend and hand out books and bookmarks. She will need help for setup. Susi volunteered.
        iii. At a recent Game Day, a new group of kids showed up so this is going well. A new Puzzle competition will be set up for winter.
        iv. Yoto has been very popular.
8. Sign up for Little Free Library on this volunteer link.
9. Google Non Profit
    a. Google said we needed to have a website. So for now, we will continue with the existing email friendsofhffl@gmail.com. If there is a free way to set up a website, we will do that.
10. By Laws
    a. Amy found a digital copy of the By Laws. She will email a copy of them with proposed changes.
    b. We will discuss potential changes at the next meeting.
    c. Then a 30 day review period will happen before the changes become part of the by laws.

**Meeting adjourned**: Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.
**Next meeting**: Wed Nov 7, 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Susi Burke, Secretary

****23 Years of Service. Transformational Leadership. A Lasting Legacy in Hampton Falls.****

The Hampton Falls Free Library is proud to announce that Linda Coe, Chair of the Library Board of Trustees, has been named the New Hampshire Library Trustees Association's Lillian Edelmann Trustee of the Year, recognizing more than two decades of extraordinary public service and leadership. Since joining the Board in 2003, Coe has served four consecutive three-year terms as Chair and has helped guide some of the most consequential moments in the Library's history. Most notably, she led the complex legal process that transformed the Hampton Falls Free Library from its 1901 corporation-in-trust structure into a modern municipal public library; an accomplishment that fundamentally shaped the Library's ability to serve future generations. Her leadership has also driven critical infrastructure investments, HVAC and roofing projects, fire and life-safety improvements, Library Director recruitment, financial stewardship, town advocacy, and the development of HFFL's first formal Strategic Plan.

In a community of fewer than 2,500 residents, Coe's 23 years of sustained volunteer leadership, while simultaneously maintaining a professional career, represent an exceptional commitment to public service. Colleagues describe her as steady, knowledgeable, unflappable, and the person who can always be counted on to follow through. Whether advocating before town officials for essential funding, navigating major organizational change, mentoring Library leadership, or simply rolling up her sleeves to help with whatever needs to be done, Linda has quietly helped build the institution Hampton Falls relies on today. The Lillian Edelmann Trustee of the Year Award brings well-deserved statewide recognition to a remarkable record of service and to a volunteer whose work has left a permanent mark on both the Hampton Falls Free Library and the community it serves.