

DRAFT Minutes of the Friends of the Hampton Falls Free Library

Date: Wednesday Nov 5, 2025; Called to order at 6:31 pm.

Present: Nancy Axelson, Susi Burke, Allie Dipietro, Amy Dorgan, Leah Knowlton, Val Marshall, Joanna Meighan, Deborah Regan, Alisha Roberts, Judy Wilson
Liaison from the Trustees: None

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Alisha:** Research Little Green Light as a possible solution for receipts for giving.
- **Judy:** Write up guidelines for Little Free Library.
- **Susi:** Post about holiday books and about Friends on FB.
- **All:** Library volunteer opportunities are on [this new volunteer link](#). Allie will administer this link going forward once all the details are determined.

PARKING LOT:

- **January 2026 Meeting:** Discuss Library Week events for April
- **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 Oct 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: \$40,152.89
 - b. 3 checks are still outstanding. Balance will be \$39,132.75 when these clear.
 - c. Everyone present paid dues for the Friends membership.
4. Trustee Report
 - a. No Trustees present.
5. Director's Report (Joanna)
 - a. Tea Leaf Reading
 - i. 21 attendees
 - ii. Good feedback on the event.
 - b. Potential Future programming
 - i. TJ Wheeler told Allie that the Bandstand Concert group would like to continue concerts in an indoor venue like the library.
 - ii. There was also a Trivia Night suggestion.
 - c. Backyard Ecology: Hampton Falls Natural Resource Inventory
 - i. Conservation Commission event at the library.

- ii. Wed Nov 12th at 6:30.
 - iii. Join the Conservation Commission for a dynamic session featuring the town's Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) report and an interactive Story Map that brings our local environment to life.
 - iv. Resources: [NRI Report](#) and [Interactive Story Map](#)
- d. YA Bookclub
 - i. Eyes Open by Lyn Miller-Lachmann
 - ii. Sat Nov 8th at 10:30
- e. Gourd Craft
 - i. Sat Nov 8th at 10:30
- f. Art in the Library: Jean Chase Farnum
 - i. Artist Reception: Saturday, November 15th at 10:30 am
- 6. Youth Programming Report (Leah)
 - a. Winter Market
 - i. Will be held on the Commons.
 - ii. Dec 6th from 4 - 7.
 - iii. Leah will hand out bells with an invitation to come to the Polar Express program.
 - b. Polar Express
 - i. Dec 10th.
 - c. ALA Pokemon program
 - i. Starting in January.
- 7. Volunteer Sign Ups

[Friends of the HF Library: Volunteer Signup \(2025 link\)](#)- Full through end of year. We will move the Little Free Library signups with the new general library volunteer signup. Allie has volunteered to administer everything on [this new volunteer link](#) once it is clear what will be happening. Judy will write up a quick set of instructions for anyone willing signup to restock the Little Free Libraries. There was a consensus that only adults should be doing this volunteer job.
- 8. Alnoba
 - a. Susi reached out and was put in touch with Sandra but no response. She will follow up again on this.
- 9. Friends Awareness and Fundraising
 - a. Encourage memberships on Facebook Friends group.
 - b. We will extend what it means to be a Friend. Volunteers can be considered Friends without paying membership dues. Membership Dues are required to vote but not required to be part of the Friends.
 - c. Tote Bag: Possibly encourage Paypal Monthly Donation to friends and give tote bag in return. In addition, we can sell tote bags for \$25 each. The cost that Amy got was around \$12.
- 10. OM Practice
 - a. Val listened to a Tai Chi class from a video library.
 - b. Pretzel Kids during storytime went well although there were a few technical issues.
 - c. Maybe try an event featuring OM in January.
- 11. Trust
 - a. We are waiting for Beth to come back with what the structure of the trust would look like.
 - b. There have been questions about mixing municipal trust and a 501(3)c.
- 12. Thank you notes
 - a. Beth is writing the thank you notes for the garden donations.
 - b. The Friends are responsible for legally creating the receipts for donations over \$250.

- c. The suggestion was made that we should give an annual receipt per donor rather than acknowledge every donation throughout the year.
- d. Alisha suggested looking into Little Green Light as a possible solution for receipts for giving.

Meeting adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 7:46.

Next meeting: Dec 3 , 2025, at 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Susi Burke, Secretary