

Minutes of the Friends of the Hampton Falls Free Library

Date: Wednesday Nov 6, 2024; Called to order at 6:30 pm.

Present: Nancy Axelson, Susan Burke, Amy Dorgan, Melodee Guyotte, Leah Knowlton, Val Marshall, Joanna Meighan, Deborah Regan, Alisha Roberts, Judy Wilson

ACTION ITEMS:

- **All:** Select dates for the [Friends of the HF Library: Volunteer Signup \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com)
- **Amy:** Will send a recording and slides to everyone for the ALA Webinar on the Library of Things.
- **Judy/Susi:** Meet to discuss Library of Things.
- **Leah/Val:** Meet to discuss Craft Swap.

PARKING LOT:

- Review last year's budget vs actual for library programming in anticipation of approving a budget for 2025.
- Look into the possibility of creating Friends Swag like Tote Bags, table banner, name tags. Note: Enviro-Tote is a NH company that libraries around here use.
- 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 2024 Minutes; Motion passed with all in favor.
2. Goals for this cycle - Amy
 - 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: \$47,626.08
 - b. Hannaford fundraiser: \$65
4. Trustee Report
 - a. No Trustee present.
5. Director's Report (Joanna)
 - a. YA Book Club
 - i. Red Rising by Pierce Brown.
 - ii. Saturday, November 9th, 10:30am.
 - b. Tech Connect: iPhone Mastery
 - i. Saturday, November 9th at 10:30am.
 - c. Veterans Day Program: Women Pilots Tell Their Stories of Service.
 - i. Wednesday, November 13th at 6:30pm.
 - ii. Refreshments needed from Friends.
 - d. Adult Book Club

- i. Eyes Turned Skyward by Alena Dillon.
 - ii. Wednesday, November 20th, 6:30pm.
 - iii. Author will be attending and leading the book club.
 - e. Strategic Plan
 - i. Workshop is completed.
 - ii. Groups currently working on Action Plans.
 - iii. Public Forum tentatively scheduled for Nov 21st.
 - iv. Refreshments will be needed from Friends.
 - f. Adult Crafting: Giving Plate
 - i. Saturday, November 23rd at 10:30am.
 - ii. Reverse Decoupage.
 - g. Adult Crafting: Holiday Greens
 - i. Saturday, December 14th at 10:30 am.
 - h. Cookie Exchange
 - i. Saturday, December 7th at Noon.
- 6. Youth Programming Report (Leah)
 - a. Santa Program
 - i. Dec 7th, 10 - 11:30am
 - ii. Santa is not asking for money this year because he will also be playing Santa at the Commons.
 - iii. Next year, Santa will just be in the Commons to simplify Dec events.
 - b. Polar Express Storytime
 - i. Wed, Dec 11 at 5 and 6:30.
 - c. Family Puzzle Competition
 - i. Three Diversion Gift Cards prizes, \$100, this will come from the 2024 budget from the Friends.
 - ii. Ravensburg donated 20 puzzles that are 500 pieces each. 2 sets of 10 puzzles.
- 7. Volunteer Sign Ups

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

 - a. Signups are needed for some weeks on Little Free Library and other volunteer opportunities.
- 8. Community Collab
 - a. Rec Commission, PTO, Friends, Library have met twice.
 - b. Worked through fall events and all did Boo Bash together.
 - i. Went very well.
 - ii. Learnings
 - 1. Pumpkin mini golf was very popular. Want to possibly expand it next year.
 - 2. PTO did 50/50 raffle and made \$450. Maybe consider doing a fundraiser for Friends at the next event.
 - 3. Amy suggested getting a Table banner to be more visible.
 - c. Will work on Holiday events to coordinate across the town even more so next year.
 - d. Hampton Falls Community Night is a potential event that all the groups were excited about.
 - i. Soup night as a potential draw.
 - ii. Meet many different organizations in town.
 - iii. Probably would need to be held in Town Hall to accommodate the number of people and for ease of cleanup.
 - e. Thinking of creating a town calendar, maybe quarterly.
- 9. Library of Things
 - a. Joanna handed out a circulation report of current Library of Things items..

- b. ALA had a webinar on Library of Things.
 - i. Amy will send the recording and slides to everyone.
 - ii. Community of people that help support the Library of Things exists that Amy has joined.
 - c. The librarians who gave the webinar actually were library of things librarians. It takes time to maintain the Library of things so Friends will need to help in this area.
 - d. Friends would need to agree to own the maintenance, the display area, and promote items since this is a big task. Judy and Susi volunteered to start this process.
 - e. [New Library of Things policy](#) has been created.
 - f. Possibly coordinate with the school and/or recreation commission on Library of Things.
 - g. Can coordinate the Library of Things promotion with programming.
10. Craft Swap
- a. Amy handed out information for a Craft Swap
 - b. This included questions that need to be answered and jobs that need to be done.
 - c. Val and Leah volunteered for the Craft Swap group.
11. Arts/Crafts Online Subscription.
- a. Creative Bug Subscription is \$500/year. Craftsby is \$1200 for a year.
 - b. Can pair with Library of Things and/or programming to increase engagement..
 - c. Promotion is key.
 - d. Possibly pair this with the Craft Swap.
 - e. Hoopla may be partnering with a craft subscription service so Joanna will keep an eye on this.
12. Rockingham County Friends Group
- a. 70 people gathered at Exeter Library in October.
 - b. Everyone wants to meet on a regular basis.
 - c. Newmarket library on Nov November 14, 5-7pm
 - i. Topics: membership and awareness

Meeting adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 7:45.

Next meeting: December 4 , 2024, at 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Susi Burke, Secretary