

Friends of the Brooks Memorial Library Board Minutes February 18, 2026

Present: Dayle Doiron, Karen Duggan, Janice Stockman, Amanda Whiting, Karen Tyler, Starr Latronica, Sharon Myers, Connie Cline

Absent: Kevin O'Keefe, Sue Dyer, Diane Learey

The meeting was called to order at 4:36.

A moment about Connie K– she was “safe and warm and comfortable and free of pain” at the end. Connie was a cross-country bicycle rider in her youth! Connie Cline made a motion to donate \$250 to the Vermont Food Bank and to buy a bench in her honor when the time comes to do renovations to the outdoor landscape. Motion was approved.

Secretary's report was approved; moved by Karen and seconded by Connie.

Treasurer's report–Dayle said there have been a lot of sizable donations to the Annual Appeal; the total this year is \$18,522.83. The Book Sale total is around \$6,200. Sharon made a motion to accept and file this report for audit; Janice seconded; report approved. As of 1/31/26 we have a balance of \$98,124.08 in the checking and Fidelity accounts.

Presidents' report:

- Karen acknowledged the Annual Appeal brought in 18,522.83.
- Gifts for staff–wait until library week and give gift certificates to The Humble Mug.
- May is the annual meeting where we nominate and elect officers. Karen's term is up next May (2027) and she will be stepping down as President. **We will need to find another president among us.**
- **We should advertise the annual meeting soon to invite the public.**
- The town is advertising for Starr's position and the hiring team consists of two trustees, one staff person, John Potter, Sally Nix, and Carol Lollatte. There will be a tour of the library after each interview, and they would like one trustee and one friend to be present. Janice and Dayle said they would be interested. Currently there are seven applicants.
- Working on a showing of a film at the Latchis for the last week of April–Starr's last week and National Library Week.
- **Karen would like us to think about recruiting two new Friends Board members.**

Brainstorming ideas for spring events: Starr talked about the film The Librarians–it is mostly about school librarians in Texas and how they have to deal with banned books; it was aired on PBS last weekend–and she is not sure how big an audience we would get. Other thoughts...Party Girl, Desk Set...

The Latchis is booked for Thursday, April 23. Could we do a children's movie and an adult's movie that had libraries as a theme? Matilda?

Garden party: Looking at July 12 for the garden party at Sharon's house.

Library news and requests

- Patrons used 43 museum passes in January 2025. This January, with digital passes, we've given out 79!
- Summer reading program will focus on dinosaurs and earth sciences—Amanda has many activities planned or considered. VINS will do a presentation on birds here on June 23. Amanda requests \$1352.40 for the summer program.
- Rapid reviews will be happening in early June.

Starr's requests

- Storytelling program with Djeli happening this Saturday for kids: \$200
- Bookpage annual subscription is due \$438 for 50 copies per month. We are getting one free month because of a shipping problem.
- Books in the home programs for giving away books during events like Trunk or Treat (Dolly Parton Imagination Station, Scholastic). **Starr will research and get back to us at the next meeting.**
- Anna's book, Tested, is being released April 12 and we will do a book launch. In the past we have purchased books to give away with events like this. Anna can get a 40% discount and we can give books away to kids who come to the event. \$292 for 25 copies.

Total requests from the library that were approved equal \$2282.40

The meeting adjourned at 5:46.

Respectfully submitted by
Janice Stockman