

Board Meeting Minutes
Friends of the Brooks Memorial Library
September 17, 2025

Present: Karen, Starr, Amanda, Diane, Dayle, Sue, Janice, Sharon, Kevin, Connie K, Connie C

The meeting was called to order at 4:34

Secretary's report for August was approved.

Treasurer's report reduced by \$1 due to an error in counting proceeds from the Ice Cream Social. Pool passes cost \$76 this year. Donations from Ice Cream Social amounted to almost \$200. Dayle and Matt are trying to use the debit card to pay for technology equipment, but it got shut off because of a report of fraudulent use. They canceled that card and are applying for another one. The Treasurer's report was approved with notice of the \$1 error which Dayle will correct.

Presidents' report

- Money is coming in from donations in memorial of Richard Evers
- Karen ordered new stationery with the tax exempt status declaration on the back.
- Starr and staff are planning an Open House to display the behind the scenes activities that take place at the library on Oct. 20 from 6-8. There will be an update on the Strategic Plan, and the Building Project. Friends will provide refreshments. The Building Project isn't using any local funds, but they will come to Friends and other local groups for funding for plantings. Kevin suggests mentioning this in the Friends Annual Appeal. There will be 6-8 spots for benches to commemorate past supporters. Bids will open for the building project on October 8.
- November 1 Friends of Libraries in Vermont special event in Shelburne Vermont. Would anyone like to attend? Karen will send information out.

Ice cream update and a motion

- Thank you to everyone who participated! Kevin will send a thank you to the Coop for donating the ice cream.
- Janice made a motion to buy ice cream scoops for this annual event. Sue seconded, motion approved. Janice and Dayle found scoops; each of them will order three. Diane offered that we should recruit more helpers to break down the tables at the end of the event. Potentially we could use volunteers from Amanda's list.

Book sale update

- Off to a great start. We could use more boxes, not too big. Space under the stairs getting filled up.
- Karen is giving books away that aren't in top shape by putting them on the shelf near the door.

- We are doing the raffle again. Raffle drawing will be Dec. 18. Library volunteers will get two free books again. Raffle tickets are the same prices as last year. There are baskets in the closet. Consider making your basket based on a book. Have baskets ready by first day of book sale, Nov. 28.

Help with Annual Appeal Letter

- Diane, Sue, and Dayle will draft the letter, then run it by Starr and the Library Board.
Target start date: Nov. 1

Summer reading program report

- Amanda provided a written report of the successful summer adult reading program. Everyone appreciated the work Amanda put into this, and the high participation rate. Local businesses gave deeply discounted gift cards.
- Amanda highlighted the goals of the summer reading program and the activities to reach those goals. Thank you, Amanda, for putting the report together!
- Kids' summer reading program broke records with over 300 people signing up for it and 3000 reading hours. Teen program had a 100% increase in participation.
- Do we want to do ice skating passes again? Rink opens on Oct. 25. Diane motioned to continue with passes this year; motion approved.

Library news and requests

- The Miniature Project—library will participate in it. Windows all around town will display mini scenes. The library will sponsor two workshops—Making Mini-Crankies with Jana Zeller (\$300); and Needle Felting with a staff member to make little critters (\$300). The theme is inspired by the illustrations of Jan Brett.
- Sally May Orr is an award winning illustrator and needle worker; Starr will go to a workshop in Peterborough to see her work and get inspiration.
- There is some small amount of funding from DBA for materials, but Starr is requesting \$200 from Friends.
- We approved \$800 for the two workshops and materials.

Other business

- Connie C confirmed that we allocated \$100/month for snacks.
- Connie bought a ticket for the Louise Penney talk at the Haskell Library, virtually. We can use it in the library with library equipment. Connie will get the date and time details to Starr.
- Kevin asked if we are doing anything for Halloween this year—Starr hasn't heard anything yet. Kevin suggests we get dressed up as banned books.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:32.

Respectfully submitted by
Janice Stockman

