

## GMPL Friends Meeting Minutes January 6, 2026

Meeting opened at 6:30 by Beth Plas. 17 members were in attendance

Membership Report: 2026 membership is at 72 members, which includes 19 Golden members.

Correspondence from the Library staff was shared , thanking the Friends for paying for their holiday dinner at The Foundry.

Treasurer Report: January operating account balance is \$11,796.69. The CD balance is \$21,463.46. The Lakeland Grant for the Personal Pantry balance is \$471. The RBTW programming balance is \$4,160.15.

The 2026 Budget was presented and discussion followed. Motions were made and the budget was approved as presented.

### **Book Sale Report**

The November book sale earned \$2205 and the raffle brought in \$387, per the Treasurer's report.

The Spring book sale set up will be Friday May 1 and Saturday May 2 (until 1pm). The sale will run May 4-May 9, with the Friends preview on Monday, May 4 from 9:30-Noon.

Rita has proposed an Ice Cream Basket/Cooler raffle and is looking for donations.

Dates for the Fall book sale set up will be Friday October 30 and 31. The sale will run November 2-7.

### **Director Report**

Pam attended in Adele's absence.

The library staff collected 179 pounds of food for our free pantry in their Jeans-Day promotion.

Pam confirmed the North Eaton branch closed mid-December due to lack of patronage and expense. Programs will still continue at the North Eaton Christian Church.

The Coffman building has been cleaned by Simplified. Usage plans are not established.

Library staff inquired about having membership cards to give to patrons when they submitted their application.

### **Trustee Report**

No Trustees were in attendance.

## **Old Business**

The office of Vice President remains open since Kathy Hyle has stepped down.

Darlene presented an overview of the Valley Storage rental unit. Her recommendation was that our needs could be met with a smaller unit. Options were discussed, including use of the basement in the Coffman building, purchasing a small barn to place on library property, or moving into a 10x10 smaller unit (which they estimate would fill our needs) at a cost of \$124/week. The Board will follow up with the Director regarding feasibility of some of the suggestions. Marilyn did report that the storage company will now honor a 10% discount for non-profit groups.

## **New Business**

Upcoming events:

February Meeting – Connie Skolnicki will present a program on Bee Venom Therapy

March – Business Meeting

April – Trinity Mill (Grafton) presentation

May – Book Sale, no Business Meeting

TBD: GMPL Express Trip to Lakeview Cemetery (April or May) – Marilyn will follow up

Women In History – Eleanor Roosevelt Brenda will follow up

Natural History Museum – on hold

International Cultural Gardens One World Day - August

Fund Raising Ideas:

No RBTW in 2026

Board meeting with Katie Flanigan in February

Soup Cook Off (Brenda Baer to gather more info)

Brenda Jalowiec, Secretary

