

Friends Meeting Minutes June 3, 2025

Meeting opened at 6:30 by Beth Plas, President. 16 members were in attendance.

Membership Report: 2025 membership is at 121 members, which includes 19 Golden members.

April minutes were read and approved. There were no May minutes since we held the Spring Book Sale the first week of the month.

No correspondence.

Treasurer Report: The Treasurer was not in attendance and there was no report.

Book Sale Report

The May book sale was held May 3 – May 10. Saturday morning was reserved for Members only from 10:00-noon. The Friends offered donuts and coffee to members.

Chairperson Rita Thompson reported sales of \$1977 for books and \$800 for the Garden Cart Raffle.

Rita will be on vacation during the dates for the November Book Sale and we will need a new Chairperson for that sale (tentatively scheduled for set up on Oct 30-31 and opening Nov 1-8, although the dates are flexible.

She suggested a Baking/Pie Raffle Theme for the raffle.

Director Report

Adele was in attendance. The North Eaton branch is open and recent classes were held for yoga (20 in attendance), gardening (23 in attendance) and Seniors (held at the NE Christian Church next door, with luncheon sponsored by a church grant). Hours are Monday 11am-7pm and Wednesday/Friday 10am-5pm.

Adele reported the Library Board has made an offer to purchase the Coffman Optical building on Main Street for additional space. Finalization should be within 90 days. They plan to use the large room for programs and perhaps the smaller rooms as patron breakout rooms.

Summer reading program started June 2.

Trustee Report

Trustee Clare Gallaher was in attendance and announced that due to pending federal and state Funding cuts, the Board feels the need for an additional Operating Levy to be placed on the November ballot. The Board is seeking volunteers to service on the PAC (Political Action Committee). In addition, fund raising activities will be discussed.

Adele explained that state funding changes are pending and should be announced within two weeks. About 50% of our funding comes through the Public Library Fund and the other half through our existing levy. The state PLF comes from income tax and sales tax. Federal funds

that are at risk fund our digital library that purchases databases on Libby and also contributes to digital book purchases. This funding is critical.

The Levy Committee will need to fund their campaign (signage, advertising, mailing, etc). The Friends group should be able to make a donation; Adele will confirm what dollar amount is allowed.

Old Business

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

Business

The Little Food Pantries are being used by the community. We are requesting donations from our membership, which can be placed directly into the pantries or dropped off at the City Hall across the street M-F 8am-4:30pm. It was suggested that everyone bring a donation to the July meeting. Brenda will send a reminder in the monthly newsletter.

Storage costs continue to rise. The group discussed alternatives to the Storage Unit rental, hoping the new building might relieve some of the storage restraints. The Friends primarily store Read Between the Wines materials, tables, book sale supplies, financial paperwork, and library decorations in our unit because the two sheds on the property were full and the library had no other space. We do have our book donations in the sheds. The Board will continue to look at alternatives.

The speaker for the August 5th meeting has been confirmed. Jim Stoner from southern Ohio will portray Woody Hayes. It was decided that we need to do advance registration in order to determine if we can fit in our community room (max 36) or if we need to move the event offsite. Darlene will handle the registration logistics. There will be no admission charge.

Oct 7th meeting will be a presentation by Earth Philosophy on organic oils for health and beauty.

Dec 2nd will be a Bow-Making Workshop by member Sharon O'Neil and again we will need advance registration since space will be limited in the community room.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, July 1 at 6:30pm in the library Community Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Jalowiec, Secretary

