

Friends of Boyden Library
Minutes of May Meeting
May 14, 2025

Present: Sue Collins, Katherine Howard, Betsy Lorusso, Bernadette Thie, Colleen McManus, Margi Rossetti, Janice Rosado, Maureen Ryan Wise, Charles DiPompo, Ashley Clement, Director Libby O'Neill, Youth Service Librarian Emma Brelsford, Trustee Paul Ivanovskis.

Meeting called to order: Sue Collins called meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Approval April 2, 2025 Minutes: As there were no questions or changes, Betsy Lorusso requested a motion to accept the April minutes. Janice made motion to accept the Minutes; seconded by Margi. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Katherine Howard

- Letter sent from co-presidents to update accounts- (1) Katherine/Bernadette on primary (2) Katherine/Libby on Friends 2.0 (3) Bernadette/Katherine on CD (4) Katherine on Bartholomew
- New increase in Money Minder annual fee \$300 due in September/October 2025. Our 2025 budget is \$300.
- Venmo remains down.
- Taxes being compiled, filing an extension for 2024.
- Spring Book Sale- preliminary tally \$5512.70 (2024 \$4892.00, 2023 \$3911).
- Zoo passes at Circulation desk 22 passes sold to date \$440.
- AMEX had extra monies-made it a "deposit", it will be in May's accounting.
- Libby is rectifying the rest of the money for the year for transfer July 1, 2025. Current report is off due to transfer of money between accounts, it is mislabeled and will ask Treasurer Committee to see how best to put it into Money Minder.
- Executive Board to meet with Bartholomew in June.

Director's Report: Libby O'Neill

- April Friends' Sponsored events: Metal Art Work with Mr. Megerdichian: 3 attended, Aromatherapy: 11 attended,

Historical Fiction Author talk with Janis Robinson Days: 14 attended, Mentalist Mr. Lally was a huge hit for teens and adults with 53 attending.

- Purchased 4 new book club kits (5 books in each kit) using The Friends canvas bags and will put Friends membership forms in bag– thank you!
- Most of Makerspace equipment has been purchased, a huge thank you to the Friends for funding that!
- Will be calling makerspace : Boyden Library's Tinker Tank and tentatively opening the week of June 16.
- Holly from Children's department will be creating a Tinker Tank image for the Banner for the Makerspace which will be in the Tutor Room.
- Upcoming Events sponsored by The Friends: 5/20 Massachusetts Chocolate History talk, 5/31 Author event with Eddie Doherty.
- Summer Bingo cards for adults will be more accessible this year! The gift card drawings are sponsored by The Friends.
- 3 Yoga sessions with the YMCA: 5/22, 5/29, 6/5.
- Together with Pride events are coming in June – a community collaboration to celebrate pride.

YA Librarian's Report: Jennifir Huston reported by Libby O'Neill

- April Friends' sponsored events: Aromatherapy with Klassic Kreations: 7 attended, The Mentalist was co-sponsored with Adult with 53 attending.
- May Friends' sponsored programs: Mother's Day Plant Stakes: 5 attendees
- Upcoming May programs: Watercolor Painting with Miss Mehta, Crafty Teens: Pressed Flowers
- Founder's Day Parade: Mario "Level Up" theme. Teen volunteers are helping to make the theme with two wagons. Volunteers needed to pass candy out to the crowds.
- Ashley volunteered her Mario themed party goods for the parade.
- School visits to promote summer reading: Ahern on 5/12, Foxborough Charter 5/14, and Foxborough High 5/21.

Children's Services Librarian Report: Emma Brelsford

- Friends funds are being used for the following:

- Summer Reading Program prizes: croc charms and silicone bracelets (participants can collect up to 5 charms through the summer).
- Craft supplies: owl pellets for Strange Science class, materials for scarf puppets, dried flowers, tote bags and t-shirts.
- Programs booked: 6/30 Pop up Art school for Minecraft Clay Bobbleheads, 8/9 Animal Adventures,
- 8/26 Mini Big Top Program grant was approved and will be scheduled for end of Summer on the Town Common aka End of Summer Bash.
- 11/1 Dinoventures
- Garden Club is Thursdays at 4 pm to plant and weed

Trustee Report: Paul Ivanovskis

- Trustee positions for upcoming year: Kevin felt it was a good time to step back from Chair position. Jenn made it clear that she didn't want chair. Paul accepted Chair nomination, Sarah to continue as Clerk/secretary and Kevin to be Co-Chair.
- No hold on Library budget at Town Meeting. Tinker Tank discussed, spoke of the liability form needed to use the Tinker Tank. Children under 12 need to be accompanied by parent and sign liability form. Children over 12 will need parent to sign liability form.
- Guideline change for the use of the Meeting room to include no camps. Ashley Clements was congratulated on being voted in as new Trustee.
- Sue Collins to attend Trustees June Meeting. Friends will compile list of who will attend Trustees fall meetings and forward to Libby.
- Trustees to attend upcoming Friends meetings: June-Kevin, September-Ashley, October-Paul, November-Joyce.

Membership: Colleen McManus

- Maybe 160 members to date, will need to audit this number. April had three brand new members. Last year at this time there were 159 members.
- Colleen and Katherine will meet to help rectify the membership payments.
- Sent exec board updated volunteer list. Erin Silver signed up as wanting to be on Board.

- Colleen questioned whether we should set up a volunteer Coordinator. Janice Rosado offered to take on this position.
- Libby will put list of Volunteer opportunities on Boyden website, will review wording with board before sending out.

Book Shop: Margi Rossetti

- Matt Donnelly took many books from book sale, we should see more money from him once those are sold. Matt's spread sheet is online.
- Plenty of grocery bags, and only a handful of canvas bags are left in inventory
- Bay State books can call the library if they are in area to pick up any boxes of books in back hall.

Book Sale: Lesleyann Foster's report given by Margi Rossetti

- Lesleyann thanked all who helped prepare for the Spring Book Sale which was very successful and raised significant funds to support library programming.
- The new Bag Sale pricing did not seem to be an issue and the larger reusable bags were appreciated.
- Bay State picked up 56 boxes of donated books after book sale. Books were pulled for Friends Last Chapter and Founder's Day mini sale.
- On May 5th an email from a concerned library patron related to Dealers buying large quantities, using scanners and general etiquette issues. On 5/8, Lesleyann thanked patron for reaching out and highlighted the actions that we took to address the issue. An announcement and etiquette flyer was distributed to all shoppers prior to admittance. Patron was reassured that we would continue to monitor the situation and adjust policies as necessary.
- Another concern was raised on 5/9 regarding dealers purchasing large quantities of bags during the Members Bag Sale. Board members with any suggestions on these policies, please reach out to Lesleyann by email and ideas could be reviewed at a future date.

- Lee Rubin Collins from Prison Book Program came on Saturday, picked out 4 bags of books and made a donation to the Friends. She cordially invited all members to an event
- Highlighting the Program on June 5th from 7-8 pm at Wellesley Books.
- Our new Book Sale Lawn signs looked great! Thanks to all who helped publicize the event.
- Actions items to consider: Inventory reusable totes and reorder as necessary. Discuss ordering signs for Book Drives/Saturday for the Fall. Prepare new category signs to mark bins and decide whether to design new or keep to same tradition of color coding bins.
- Janice suggested that During Members Only Bag Sale that a 2 bag limit be adopted. Members could still come shop on Saturday Bag Sale.
- A patron at book sale recommended we increase prices on paperback books for adults and children.
- Suggestion to keep track of money from Members only bag sale.
- Katherine spoke with Ames library who sent out coupons to all members by Email before bag sale to help increase sales.

Old Business:

Foxes in the Boro: Sue

- Sue and Mo attended Cultural Council's April meeting. We understand that through business and private donations the Foxes have been paid for.
- Now Cultural Council wants to raise money to sponsor cultural events. As of now only the Rodman Theatre and Y have shown interest in purchasing their Fox through corporate or private donors.
- The Council was hoping to raise \$5000 for each Fox. They proposed a \$3000 price tag for non-profits to which Sue said was still too high but perhaps \$2500 would be possible. At this time, not having heard back from The Cultural Council, the Friends Board has decided to table the idea of purchasing the Fox, since our main focus is to raise funds to help with Library programing. Janice comments that maybe a patron would pay to keep the foxes in town.

Founders Day June 7th: Sue Collins

- Betsy B to bring tables, books, Jenga, Connect Four and tent with help from her husband. Katherine will bring cash \$1, and \$ 5's.
- Betsy L to bring children's books from sorting room (Margi to set books aside).
- Sue to reach out to Shruthi Reddy about her costs so that we can pay her for the henna, she has donated her time. Libby asked how much will we charge for the Henna? Bringing tent from Library of Things
- Parking available at the very back of at St. Mary's parking lot for the Founders day.
- Volunteers bring chairs and water. Sue has paid for the space and will set up .

New Business: none

- Adjourn Ashley made motion to adjourn; second by Janice. Motion to adjourn passed

Next Meeting June 4, 2025

7 p.m. Community Room

Respectfully submitted : Betsy Lorusso, Secretary