



## MINUTES

April 17, 2025

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Julie Bernstein, President  
Carol Nash, Vice President  
Carl Ceithaml, Treasurer  
Debbie Rieth, Recording Secretary  
Faith Schoon, Corresponding Secretary  
Regina Ritrovato, Social Chair  
Sarah Skinner, Library Director  
Katharine Lion, Library Staff  
Denise Malevitis, Library Staff

**ABSENT:** None

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

1. Motion to approve minutes of last meeting made by Carol Nash, seconded by Faith Schoon. Minutes were approved.

### 2. Officers' Reports

- a. President's Report: Julie had no member updates or news to report.
- b. Vice President: Carol reported that the book shoppe is nicely stocked with lots of books, and there is new signage, provided by Katharine. Sue Nuti and JeanMarie Woods do an excellent job of keeping the shoppe organized.
- c. Treasurer: Carl presented his 1st quarter financial reports. He pointed out that book sales were down from the 1st quarter of 2024, but that a generous \$500 donation was also made. In the Library of Things, the sewing machine was serviced to keep it in good working order (\$85).

### 3. Library Director's Report:

Sarah is working on new artwork for the children's area; she'd like to get seasonal, interchangeable frames that could be updated periodically. She is investigating partnering with the Bridgman Schools art program for artwork or potentially, some type of mural.

A number of library programs have been very well received, including Zoovolution, which had 73 attendees. Scott has organized an Open Mic night (last Tuesday evening of each month), which had 7 performers and 24 audience members in its debut session. Coming up is a Sound Bath meditation (Saturday morning). Also, Demystified Tech for Seniors, hosted by Kyle.



Sarah was asked about the status of library funding, given the changes in the federal funding situation. She said the IMLS funds all the inter-library loan expenses in Michigan, and if that funding is not renewed beyond September 30 of this year, the inter-library loan system will cease to exist. Some library friends organizations are printing free bookmarks with information about this crucial funding; Sarah said the staff could print those bookmarks if it was a Friends initiative, but not from the library. Upon motion by Debbie and supported by Faith, it was agreed that the Friends would proceed with offering the bookmarks to patrons for informational purposes.

#### 4. Old Business:

Julie reported that during National Library week the Friends sponsored several staff appreciation activities, including flowers for the staff, doughnuts and lunch from Panera.

#### 5. New Business:

Plans for the annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon are coming together. JeanMarie Woods will be honored as the volunteer of the year. Carol and Reggie are helping Julie with the luncheon.

Sarah presented 20 colorful books that have been acquired to donate to the Rising Kites coffee shop children's area. They will be processed, stamped and delivered.

Katharine presented several options for a new Friends of the Library logo. A compilation of several of the designs was approved and Katharine will proceed with preparing the logo for use in several formats.

Julie and Faith will work together on the membership drive coming up in June.

\*\*\*Following the meeting's adjournment, the Friends were made aware of another program coming to the library, with Irish music, in June. The Friends voted, via email, to approve full funding of this program, \$685.\*\*\*

Next meeting is July 17, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.