

FRIENDS OF THE FISKE FREE LIBRARY
MEETING MINUTES FOR JANUARY 14,2026

The meeting was called to order at 5:16 pm at the Fiske Free Library

Members in attendance:

Renee Mayer, President	Marty Davis
John Cloutier, V.President	Mark White
Lisa Gosselin, Secretary	Elizabeth Cram
Lynsey LaCourse, Treasurer	Katie Welch
Josh Reyes, Liaison to Trustees	

Katie Welsh was welcomed as a new member

OLD BUSINESS

1. Current Financial Snapshot

Current Balance:	\$16,636.53
Debits:	Ch#181 to Mark White (Chili Cook Off) \$ 77.38
	Ch#182 to State of NH (Non profit app) \$ 100.00
Credits:	Interest \$.45
	Stripe New member donation K Welsh # 9.41

Renee submitted a receipt for the books donated by the Friends for the Santa reading of The Night Before Christmas. This debit is not included in the current treasurers report and will be noted in our February report.

2. NH Charitable Trust Status

Renee noted that we are once again in good standing with the NH Charitable Trust Foundation. Renee noted that the meeting minutes from the December meeting were corrected to reflect the actual amount spent on our reapplication process.

3. Santa Event Review:

Renee and Elizabeth were able to report that our Santa Event was a great success!! Elizabeth reported that 60 people attended, 54 books of the 99 purchased were distributed to children. 55 books remain on hand for next year. Elizabeth also reported that those in attendance positively commented on the quiet and relaxed, non-chaotic environment at the reading. Elizabeth Noted that Santa has already been booked for next year!

4. MOU Finalization for presentation to Michael, the Head Librarian for FFL

The draft MOU which was created from a shared document among the officers was reviewed, and one additional change was made tonight: to remove Item #8 which states that "The Friends agree to include a member from the FFL administration as a non-voting presence at all meetings of the FFL and we will allow room on our agenda for a Library report." Discussion revealed that this is already stated clearly in our Constitution and would be redundant in this document. This document as amended was then voted upon following a motion by Josh Reyes and a second by John Cloutier. It passed unanimously and will be submitted to Michael at the FFL for his review. In addition, Renee reported we will review voting characteristics prior to the next meeting. Michael's comments on this document will be addressed at the next meeting.

4. Blind Date with a Book.

The proposed date of the event will be on Thursday, 2/12/26 from 7:00-8:30 pm

The location is to be decided as Renee is speaking with Michael about this

Lynsey suggested that this could be a 'member mingle'. She suggested that we ask for a \$5.00 donation, and we provide refreshments and music.

The Books are listed by genre, and Elizabeth suggested that we decorate them, so that the title is "Blind". It was discussed that this would be a good way to build membership, so it was decided that we open this up as a mixer for members and potential new Members. Renee suggested that we advertise on city web site as a FFL Valentines Social.

Any money raised by Blind Date with a book will go to Friends budget.

Lynsey will share list of books on hand and accepts books from members to add to our list
Lynsey offered to notify members about when we can gather to prepare and wrap the books for this event..

At this time, we are awaiting approval from Mike to hold this Event at the FFL. If it is unavailable then it will be held at Josh's House. Suggested Donation will be \$5.00. People can give more if so desired. Mission is to be a fundraiser, a member mixer and a way to begin advertising for the April Book Sale, April 11-12.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Book Sale

It was reported there are currently about 20 boxes of books for the Friends to pick up at the library, as well as the books being stored at Josh's. Renee suggested we have book drives to gather more books to sell. By email, Mike cautioned that 90% of the books at previous book drives were unsaleable. Renee had consulted the president of the friends of the library in Springfield, VT who reported that they acquire mostly sellable books because of how they advertise the book drive very specifically, ie saying we only "accept clean, no moldy books, no CDs, no books on tape and no periodicals". Discussion ensued and it was decided to plan 3 book drives before our Book Sale. . Members are encouraged to save boxes for the book drives.

Dates: January 31st, 10:100-pm
February 21st: 10-1:00pm
March 7th 10-1:00 pm

The Annual FFL Book Sale is scheduled to be on April 11-12.
Friends Members will be allowed to “preview and buy books” on Friday, and Saturday will be open to the public.

2. Strategic Planning Meeting was discussed as a way to organize ourselves for this year. We've discussed some potential fund raising ideas for our budget as well as events to host or support. Organizing now for these great ideas could make this a very productive year. This was well received and we are going to have our first Strategic Planning meeting on Tuesday 2/17/26 at Lisa Gosselin's House, 79 Durham Ave, Claremont. It will be a potluck dinner which Lisa will organize in greater detail. Renee will let Mike know as well.

3. Website Status

This item was raised but tabled until the next meeting on 2/4/26 as the hour was getting late.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa R Gosselin, Secretary
Friends of The Fiske Free Library