

FRIENDS OF THE MILLIS PUBLIC LIBRARY MONTHLY MEETING

JANUARY 22 -6:00 P.M.

In Roche Bros. Community Room and via Zoom.

Attending in person: Meghan Gavaghan, Treasurer, Jane Hardin, Corresponding Secretary, Diana Nunnaley, Member-at-Large, Sandra Elaine Scott, President, Nancy Snow and Kim Tolson, Library Director. Attending via Zoom: Jennifer Farrar, Library Trustee, Art Payne, Vice President and Jen Payne.

Meghan called the meeting to order at 6:04 P.M. Meghan made a motion to accept minutes from December 2024 meeting, seconded by Art. Minutes were accepted into record.

Meghan gave the Treasurer`s report. A Novel Occasion ticket sales so far: \$3,289.16, general donations \$743: Ongoing Book Sale \$99. Two major sponsors for A Novel Occasion were Millis Lions Club (\$200) and Murphy Insurance (\$1,000). Jane will thank them. Operating funds are low right now but A Novel Occasion and Book Sale fundraisers are coming up. Jennifer asked about A Novel Occasion expenses including promotion fee-more will be known at next meeting. Jennifer also asked how authors are compensated. Sandra explained that they receive a letter for tax purposes. Swank movie license has been renewed.

Donations in memory of long time Friend Mindy Murray were received, The Friends do not have a formal memorial policy but Art Payne and others have donated to the Friends and other civic organizations in memory of our treasured Friends.

Kim Tolson gave the Director`s Report. Esther will submit a block funding request for adult programming. The Library welcomes new staff member Alyssa. She is filling the position of Collections Manager formerly held by Donna Brooks who retired. We thank Donna for her years of service and wish her a rewarding retirement.

We discussed Friends web page management. We would like to included sponsors and seek someone to take on this task.

Strategic Planning sessions are full for two sessions on January 30. A youth focus group is planned. Kim is still looking for volunteers. Art will reach out to Erika Harkey to reach out to students and Meghan will contact past student volunteers.

Millis Reads will be launched soon. Featured book is The Anxious Generation -theme is digital well-being. Esther, Rachel and Sandra are contacting authors for presentations and selecting books for all age groups. A “no tech” teen lock-in is planned and Esther is looking into a possible trip to DeCordova Museum. Millis Reads has received \$600 from the Millis Cultural Council.

Library programs have been well attended. Copley Cats had 55 attendees and Seed to Plate and painting programs were successful. It was suggested to investigate alternative media platforms and more advertising of all types to increase participation in library programs.

Sandra has discussed a possible fundraiser or collaboration with Rob Zammarchi of Niagara Coffee House. This would help to promote lesser-known artists. Sandra expressed concerns about handicapped accessibility and Art mentioned limited capacity. It was suggested that it could be held at the library. Art stressed the need to collaborate and cooperate with local arts organizations on fundraising and other events.

Art presented a request to fund the annual Friends Scholarship for a Millis resident who attends Millis High School or nearby schools and has demonstrated library volunteerism or promotion of literacy. Sandra mentioned the Friends should focus on funding core programs such as Memory Café and Girls Who Code. It was suggested that we could establish a scholarship fund or host a fundraiser to provide funds for scholarship. We also discussed contacting local businesses to sponsor museum passes or specific services. Nancy Snow suggested tying an event to fundraising. Jane, Nancy and Jennifer will reach out to local businesses about potential sponsorships. Scholarship amount of \$1,000 was approved for 2025 but we will revisit the scholarship in June.

The Spring Book Sale will be held April 4-6. We need to spread the word in order to increase sales volume and make people aware of services funded by the book sale.

A Novel Occasion is January 25. Many great authors are participating in the event.

Next meeting is February 26 at 6pm in the Roche Bros. Community Room. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Art Payne

Vice President

Friends of the Millis Public Library

Treasurer's Report - Final

Period: December 4, 2024-January 22, 2025

Beginning Balance			
		Checking (Operating Funds)	2,665.20
		Savings Account - Capital Campaign	19,077.23
		Savings Account - EMC Grant	934.97
		Savings Account - Iorio Grant	26,126.15
		Savings Account - Friends Account	471.08
		12-month CD - Capital Campaign	5,429.36
			\$ 54,703.99
Income	Checking (Operating Funds)		
		A Novel Occasion 2025 ticket sales	\$ 3,289.16
		General Donations	\$ 743.51
		Membership	\$ 91.83
		Ongoing Book Sale	\$ 99.00
		A Novel Occasion 2025 sponsorship	\$ 1,200.00
	Interest		
		Checking (Operating Funds)	\$ 0.06
		Capital Campaign	\$ 45.85
		EMC Grant	\$ 1.18
		Iorio Grant	\$ 0.23
		Savings Account - Friends Account	\$ 0.59
		12-month CD - Capital Campaign	\$ 18.89
Expenses	Checking (Operating Funds)		
		Programming expenses	\$ 692.72
		A Novel Occasion 2025	\$ 1,371.20
		Museum Passes	\$ 694.00

Ending Balance			Current Balance
		Checking (Operating Funds)	5,330.84
		Savings Account - Capital Campaign	19,123.08
		Savings Account - EMC Grant	936.15
		Savings Account - Iorio Grant	26,126.38
		Savings Account - Friends Account	471.67
		12-month CD - Capital Campaign	5,448.25
			\$ 57,436.37
Outstanding Commitments			
		Checking (Operating Funds)	
		Library Passes	\$ (1,249.00)
		Youth Services Programming	\$ 955.66
		Adult Programming	\$ (207.57)
		Memory Cafe	\$ 424.58
		Millis Reads	\$ 219.00
		Ear-marked grant funding - New England Blacks in Philanthropy, Inc	\$ 1,000.00