Draft

MINUTES

Friends of the Exeter Public Library

October 20, 2026 at 6:30 PM

In Attendance: Martha Walsh (presiding), Andrea Renz, Linda George, Hilary Ireland, Sarah James, Virginia Jennings, Carol Eberhardt, Jane Watt, Susan Feltus, Lorraine Jurdi, Julia Lanter (library director), Evelyn Kelso, Jan O'Brien.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the September 2026 meeting were approved with no changes.

Welcome to new Friends Virginia Jennings and Jane Watt.

Treasurer's Report

- The October report was reviewed by attendees and will be filed in Google Docs.
- The September Craft Fair Raffle netted $300 for the Friends.

Program Updates

- Cribbage had 8 participants on Saturday, Oct 10th.
- Attendees enjoyed the Jazz Concert sponsored by the FOEPL on Oct 10, 2026,
- Discussion was conducted on the December Craft Fair and Raffle to be held on Saturday, Dec 5 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The volunteers' schedule for preparation, set-up and raffle sales will be completed at the next meeting.

Old Business

- Susan Feltus updated those present on the Alnoba Sculpture Park outing to be held on Oct 29th. The cost is $15 per person and limited to 15 Friends and Trustees. The tour is from 10:00 – 11:30 AM with Susan as the Docent.
- An OTTO Pizza fundraiser will be held on December 7, 2026, to benefit the FOEPL.

New Business

- **FOEPL Support Summary for Library**
    - Martha and Andrea completed the two-year accounting report of the support FOEPL has provided to the Library for Julia.
    - The information will be used as part of Julia Lanter's Town Budget presentation.
    - For the 2025-2026 fiscal year to date the FOEPL has provided more than $17,000.00 in support of EPL programs, materials, and professional development for staff.
- **Future Program Funding**
    - Consideration was given to the request that the Friends sponsor once-a-month watercolor art classes with art teacher Tif Farmakus.
        - Cost for the Friends would be $100 per month.

        - With a unanimous vote the Friends approved funding for March, April, May and June sessions.
        - Martha will check with Tif for her availability
    - A request for the Friends to sponsor the proposed May 2027 visit by members of the Portsmouth Orchestra was approved for $600
- **Library Requests/Technology Projects**
    - Digital Preservation Room supplies update
        - The requested splicer was donated,
        - The Library purchased the $59 DVD creation software.
        - All supplies are set for now; film reels will be needed in the future
    - The public will be able to digitize photos, film, slides, VHS, etc.
        - Make an appointment for the first experience so staff is available to teach device use.
        - Bring flash (or thumb) drive or CD/DVD to save files on.
        - Thumb drives are available for purchase in the library.
- **Library Director Updates**
    - The shelving units in the children's art room have been completed and provide expanded storage opportunities.
        - Three window seat cushions are needed at a total cost of $880.
        - A retired upholsterer is willing to produce the cushions.
        - The vote to sponsor the window seat cushions was unanimous.
    - Teen room snacks are requested
        - The Friends will spend $150 for snacks.
        - Everyone is encouraged to donate.
        - Snacks should all be packaged individually and **contain NO NUTS.**
        - Examples: granola bars, applesauce pouches, chips, Oreo cookie packs, and individually packaged popcorn
- **Friends Fun and Volunteer Activity**
    - Martha suggested those Friends who wish to can meet on Dec. 15th to write responses to letters to Santa.
    - The gathering would take place at 6:30 PM at the clubroom of Martha's residence 27 Chestnut St, Exeter.

The next meeting of the Friends of the Exeter Public Library (FOEPL) is Tuesday, **November 17, 2026**.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM