

MINUTES

Friends of the Exeter Public Library

April 21, 2026 at 6:30 PM

In Attendance: Andrea Renz (presiding), Martha Walsh, Barbara Young, Linda George, Julia Lanter, Hilary Ireland, Evelyn Kelso, Jan O'Brien

Approval of Minutes

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

Financial Report as of April 21, 2026

No donations were received

Current bank Balance: \$5,855.24

Current Edward Jones account: \$38,169.67

Recent Expenses included:

- \$300 for Irish Harp Concert
- \$500 for the Bigfoot program
- \$75 for State of NH Filing Fee

Program Updates

Cribbage had 11 participants.

Old Business

Roy and Martha filed the **990-N tax return** electronically. The IRS has accepted the return.

Roy prepared the State of NH Charitable Trust Annual filing on paper. The document was reviewed by Andrea and Martha and mailed by Roy with the \$75 filing fee.

All five officers completed the required Conflict of Interest authorizations.

The Community Oven (Hampton) Fundraiser will be held on Monday, April 27, from 4 PM to 9 PM. (Raffle 4-8). Carol and Martha will arrive at 4 PM to set up the raffle table. Martha will bring the "seed money" to make change. Carol has the raffle baskets. Carol and Martha will bring the raffle tickets and the rest of the supplies needed. Andrea and Doreen will take the 6PM to 8PM shift. Andrea will deposit the raffle proceeds at Citizens Bank and return items as needed to the library.

Hilary distributed posters for that event at Sterling Hill, Evelyn at the Mill, and Martha at 27/31 Chestnut. Andrea will bring posters to Riverwoods.

The majority of respondents voted No for participating in the Sweet Liberty Event in the evening of July 11. Members were either concerned about staffing two events on the same day or with having to pay \$50 per member to attend. Martha sent regrets to the organizers.

The Exeter Public Library Photo and Logo Thank You notes have been printed. A check for \$33.39 will be ordered to reimburse Linda for the forms and Julia will provide a purchase order to cover the expense for the color printing.

New Business

The Spring Craft Fair will be held on May 2, 2026, from 10:00 AM–2:00 PM. Andrea will serve as the Lead, working all shifts, and has prepared the red raffle ticket cups and vendor index cards. A special thank-you to Carol for offering her help—everything is all set. Denise will act as greeter. Linda will work the first shift (9 AM to 11AM). Susan Feltus and Evelyn will work second shift (11AM to 1 PM). Jan will work third shift (1PM to 2:30PM).

Fund raising for the Friends at Otto Pizza is scheduled for May 18, 2026. Flyers for this event will be available at the Library Front Desk. Please stop by the week of May 4 to pick up posters for distribution. Since this event occurs in Exeter, a volunteer is needed to distribute posters to a few of the Water Street Businesses.

Community Day at Water Street Books on Thursday, July 2, 2026. Flyers for this event will be available at the Library Front Desk.

Community Day at Street Restaurant in Exeter will be on Tuesday June 2. Customers must mention the Friends of the Library for us to get the percent donation. We plan to have a member greeting customers at the door with information.

Martha will register the Friends for a Table at the **Exeter Independence Festival** on Saturday, July 11, 2026.

Andrea and Carol were added to the Citizens Bank Checking account and Andrea was added for the Edward Jones account.

Andrea and Carol were added for access to the Friends of The Exeter Public Library Google Account for Gmail and document storage.

Andrea has reorganized the **Friends Notebook** with a table of contents that could also be used for Google document storage and Gmail Folders. Martha and Carol will review the schema before Andrea updates **Gmail and Google Documents**.

A request for volunteers from the **Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire** received via email to Susan Feltus was read. No members expressed interest in volunteering and it was decided that forwarding the message to all members would set a precedent for future requests. Those interested can get more information at the following website: www.blackheritagetrailnh.org

Julia submitted the invoice to The Friends who agreed to pay Courtney Marshall \$370.00 for her services as the **NHHC Big Watch speaker**. This expense is classified as library staff training and a check request was left for Roy to send payment.

Volunteer Needs

Wednesday July 1. Summer Reading Kick-Off Event. Founder's Park (outside of Library Building). Event will be called "READ, WHITE and BLUE" An "Old Timey" event is planned to tie in with Exeter's 250th celebration. Vintage games such as hopscotch, sack races, etc. are planned

along with old time “penny candy” treats. Three or Four Exeter Friends are needed to help the library staff make this a big success. **Event starts at 1PM. Volunteers are needed starting at 12:30 PM for set-up.** Volunteers are encouraged to wear RED WHITE or BLUE.

Wednesday July 8. A showing of the musical movie 1776 is planned as an early evening event at the library. The movie will be shown in 4 areas of the library with each area focusing on different audience participation (such as sing-along). More information will be available at our next meeting. Volunteer Friends can help as required.

Library Needs

Julia announced the receipt of **several grants and a donation that will be used to provide storage for arts and crafts supplies** in the children’s art room area.

One of the grants will allow purchase of accessibility items for the “Library of Things.” Evelyn will work with Julia on items helpful for people with low-vision.

Julia and her staff are still working on financial requests of the Friends for sponsorship of various public events.

Next meeting is May 19 at 6:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM