

Friends of the Exeter Public Library Meeting Minutes, 6/13/23

Present: Sarah James, Doreen Carson, Barbara Young, Hope Godino, Jenny Medlock, Susan Feltus, Martha Walsh, Dottie Cieslewicz, Pam Hagan, Hilary Ireland, Evelyn Kelson

1. Recognition of Carla Tishler: We took a moment to recognize the efforts and energy of Carla Tishler, our recent president, who passed away on June 6th. Carla joined the organization just two years ago but immediately threw herself into our activities. She volunteered and organized, always with a cheerful smile. We signed a card to send to her family. She will be much missed.

2. Sea Dog wrap up: We had a great night of fun and fundraising at the Sea Dog "Beer and Books" fundraiser on May 17th. We had impressive raffle prizes - thanks to all our donors! Thank you notes have been sent. We made over \$900 - see treasurer's report below.

3. Independence Festival: We will be staffing a table at the Independence Festival in downtown Exeter on Saturday, July 15th. The festival runs from 10 to 4 and the festival staff would like us in place and ready to go by 9:30. We started a volunteer list and so far we have:

9-11 (includes set up) Ute Tellini, Susan Scales, Evelyn Kelso; 11-2 Hilary Ireland, Susan Feltus, Doreen Carson; 2-4:30 (includes breakdown and clean up) Sarah James and Jenny Medlock. We could use more volunteers for each time slot - please reply to this email if you are willing and able! We need to assemble some equipment: Hope will try to find us some lightweight folding chairs, Sarah will ask Kathy Boudreau if she has our old folding table and Sarah will investigate buying a pop-up canopy, which would be useful for this event and others. We decided that our craft would be "Star Spangles Hats" (something along this line: <https://www.activefamilymag.com/star-spangled-hat/>). Hope will have the library staff cut us the stars, Martha will buy pipe cleaners and foam sheets for the headbands and Sarah will bring several staplers and write out some easy instructions. Should be a lot of fun !

4. Charitable gaming: Hilary reviewed the program and its application process for us. She will work on this with our new treasurer, Roy Tellini, after the treasurer's transition is complete.

5. Officers' transitions: Martha and Susan F are getting the president's duties organized between them. Martha has started uploading our commonly used documents onto Google Docs so that they are more easily accessible. Dottie will be transitioning the treasurer's role to Roy soon. Dottie will organize changing over the signatures on the bank account from Dottie and Kathy B to Martha, Susan F and Roy. Sarah will meet with our new secretary tomorrow to transition that role. Thanks to all our past, present and future volunteers!

6. Treasurer's report: See below. Hope is planning to bring the giant inflatable whale to the library this summer and we offered to fund that. She will let us know when it is booked.

7. Garden: The gardens in Founders Park are looking great. So far we haven't had to do much maintenance or watering. There is a hose and sprinkler stored for us at the library; the staff in both the children's room and the adult circulation desk know where it is if we need it. Right now our main gardeners are Ginny, Susan F and Sarah. Doreen volunteered to help as well. We can always use more help in the garden. It is truly an area in which many hands make light work. Please reply to this email if you can help.

8. Library Staff luncheon: On Friday, June 16th the library board of trustees is hosting a potluck appreciation lunch for the library staff. People have volunteered to cover all the basic food groups, but we can always use more donations, especially salads (green, fruit, etc), chips or desserts. The library will be closed that day for staff training, so donations can be dropped off anytime on Thursday, June 15th. The library has plenty of refrigerator space. Donations can also be dropped off on Friday between 11:30 and noon (Sarah will be at the door on the parking lot / lower level). If you need to drop off something between 9 and 11:30 on Friday text or call Hope when you arrive (603 770-4990) and she will have someone come to the door.

9. Teen room school supplies: Danette Wineberg has offered to be our point person on school supply donations. Hope will tell the teen librarian to contact Danette when supplies are running low and Danette will either let us know to put out a call or can purchase the items herself and submit for reimbursement. The teens are very grateful for our support.

10. Summer reading program kick-off - Call for volunteers!: Hope needs our help producing the Fantasy Fair for All Ages, which will kick off the library's summer reading program. This will take place on Wednesday, June 28th from 11 to 1 in Founders park (inside if raining). There is no preparation needed, just show up anytime after 10:30 and Hope will find a job for you, whether it's helping with the kids' crafts or something else. Fantasy costumes are encouraged!

11. Future activities: Susan F is working with Charlie's Ice Cream to host an event. We are all set to be the community partner for Water Street Books in September (Start making your holiday / birthday / whatever list NOW!). Martha will confirm the date. The Racial Unity Team asked us if we would like to take over running this event. We agreed that we will participate with a craft table as we have done in the past but that we did not feel running the entire event did not fit with our mission and would not be feasible for our group.

Next meeting: Tuesday, July 11th at 6:30 in the library children's craft room

Friends of the Exeter Public Library

Narrative financial report for the month of May, 2023

For meeting held on June 13, 2023

On May 1, 2023, the bank account opening balance \$3,331.88

Receipts:

Sea Dog Fundraiser % of Sales \$500.00

Sea Dog Raffle \$351.00

Cash Donation from Sea Dog Fundraiser \$85.00

Craft Fair Raffle \$210.00

Amazon Smile \$58.35

Expenses:

On May 31, 2023, the bank account closing balance \$4,536.23

Anticipated expense for June:

Check to Library for Choral Program \$250.00