

**Friends of the Exeter Public Library
Minutes of Meeting March 19, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by co-president Martha Walsh. In attendance were Martha Walsh, Jenny Medlock, Monique Lowd, Pam Hagan, Hope Gordino, Kathy Corson, Christie Spencer, Lindsey Humes, Barbara Young, Evelyn Kelso, and Susan Feltus. New members were welcomed.

The minutes of the February 13, 2024, meeting were approved upon vote of the members.

The treasurer's report, attached hereto, was reviewed.

The subject of the next appointment of officers was discussed. The appointments will be at the next meeting. Martha Walsh had agreed to stay on as President. Members who are willing to serve should contact Martha Walsh or Susan Feltus at friendsofexeterpubliclibrary@gmail.com.

The Exeter LitFest runs April 5-6. The library needs volunteers to help out on April 5, from 6:30 until 8:30, for the opening event of the event. Members who can help should be at the library at 6:30 and introduce themselves to Julia or Shelby. Wearing a costume is encouraged.

The Spring Library Craft Fair is May 4 10:00-3:00. The Friends will be running a raffle of the items donated by the participating craftspeople. We will be setting up the tables for the raffle starting at 9:00. Members can sign up for one of the two hour shifts at the April 16 Friends meeting or by contacting Susan Feltus at sfeltus@comcast.net.

There was no update on the Charitable Gambling/Casino application.

On April 8, the Friends will receive a portion of dining in sales from 5:00 until closing at Otto's Pizza in Exeter. Susan Feltus will ask the library staff to create posters advertising the event. Members should pick up a few posters and put them up around town.

Chipotle's offers a percentage of its sales for a day to participating nonprofits. Martha Walsh will complete the application and report back.

The Friends received a \$1,000 and a \$100 donation from individuals. There was discussion about reaching out to donors to encourage their participation in the Friends and the Library.

Last year, the Friends participated in the Independence Festival with a booth providing information about the library as well as a craft project for children. We have not been invited to participate again, but the library has new equipment that would make preparing a crafts project easier.

Hope Godino told about the Library's Long Range Plan Committee that will start in fall 2024 to survey library staff, volunteers, and citizens. The Committee will review the results of the survey to determine the priorities of the library. She is looking for a cross section of the town to participate on the committee. If any Friends are interested in more information or in participating, they should contact Hope at the library.

Cribbage is continuing at the library with the next event April 13.

Hope asked the Friends to fund a juggler from Maine for the children's summer reading program. A motion was made and seconded and voted upon in the affirmative to fund \$600 for this program. There was a discussion of how new residents to town can learn about the library. It was also suggested that a meeting of the leadership of

other local libraries' friends groups could be helpful.

The meetings of the Friends going forward will be on the third Tuesdays of the month instead of the second Tuesdays to avoid rescheduling for town meetings. THE NEXT MEETING will be APRIL 16 at 6:30.