

## FRIENDS OF BETHLEHEM PUBLIC LIBRARY

### Minutes of meeting held June 5, 2025

Board Members present: Norma St. John, Sally Fitzgerald, Sue Presby, Allegra Wright, Hilary Veilleux, Estelle LaFleur

Friends Members present: Candy Murphy, Connie Johnson

Guests present:

Librarian present: Laura Clerkin

Meeting called to order 5:30pm

**May 1, 2025 FOBPL minutes:** Norma motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Connie. All in favor.

**Treasurer's report:** The CD current balance is \$9,642.97, the second CD balance is \$4,305.12, and the checking account current balance is \$11,148.19, for a total of \$25,096.25.

Allegra motioned to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Sally. All in favor.

#### **Old Business**

Bethlehem Event June 7<sup>th</sup> – Hilary notified Juliet Born of what we discussed last meeting. Thanks to Chelsey for designing such a beautiful brochure.

Pavilion – follow-up Laura – Laura received two grants for the Pavilion and will soon send out RFP's for construction. She'd like it to be completed before the snow flies so it will be ready for next summer. The grant details: \$10,000 from ALA to make an accessible path into the backyard, \$15,000 grant ARSL specifically for the pavilion, for a total of \$25,000. Laura is hoping the total cost will be under \$40,000, which means the Friends would need to fund for the remaining balance.

Pollinator Garden – The garden is looking beautiful! Hilary has name tags for the plants.

Internet Upgrade – Not needed for Zoom meetings because the library has sufficient WiFi for those meetings.

Podium Update – Norma spoke with Scott and he is cutting the wood for the back of the podiums that need to be repaired. There are seven of the eighteen that must be done right away and the list will be given to Scott.

Book Sale – The book sale is June 28 to July 5<sup>th</sup> .

Summer Concerts – Norma shared the schedule for working at the Snack Shack and would like folks to volunteer. Everyone is encouraged to share dates that they are available. Food costs from suppliers hasn't increased much, so prices will remain the same as last year.

#### **New Business**

Promoting Friends – Laura will add two links to the Friends webpage to allow people to sign up to be a member of the Friends online.

Thinking Caps – How do we increase active participation in the Friends? Please put on your thinking caps and bring ideas to the next meeting that Laura attends. For instance, the Annual Meeting should be a special event at a different location. Perhaps having a Meet and Greet with other Friends groups would be helpful. Candy motioned to set a special meeting to look at marketing ideas. Allegra seconded. All in favor. We'll check our schedules for dates, times, and locations for the meeting.

Hilary will be stepping down as President in October. She will stay on the board and will be involved as a Friend.

#### **Other Business**

Allegra made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Connie. The meeting adjourned at 7:00PM.

Next meeting: Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 5:30pm.