

FRIENDS OF BETHLEHEM PUBLIC LIBRARY

Minutes of meeting held December 4, 2025

Board Members present: Norma St. John, Sally Fitzgerald, Hilary Veilleux, Dottie Champagne, Candy Murphy, Sue Presby, Allegra Wright

Librarian present: Laura Clerkin

Meeting called to order 5:30pm

November 13, 2025 FOBPL minutes: Norma motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Hilary. All in favor.

Treasurer's report: : The CD current balance is \$9,837.89, the second CD balance is \$4,383.99, and the checking account current balance is \$14,559.87, for a total of \$28,781.75. The Friends get \$1,000.00 yearly from a charitable fund. Hilary motioned to approve the report and Candy seconded. All in favor.

Old Business

Children's Christmas Party, December 6, 2025 – set up is December 6th at 10:00am. Norma will pick up cider, tablecloths, party supplies. Candy made 142 sugar cookies. Ross will hand out the bags of gummies. Candy's husband, Jim, will sit with Ros at a craft table. Front door entrance only; exit will be out back door. Candy and Sue will staff a craft table. Allegra and Norma will staff the cookie table. Hilary will staff a craft table in the meeting room.

Gingerbread Contest – There hasn't been much interest so far in the Gingerbread Contest. Submissions are due on December 13th. The prizes are a \$25.00 gift certificate to Legacy Books for the People's Choice Award and the first place prize is \$100.00 to The Little Village Toy and Book Store.

New Business:

Dolly Parton Imagination Library – Intro 53 kids over five years old; 24 children are already enrolled. The cost is \$1,600.00 per year. There is grant money to fund January 2026. Laura thinks the program is worthwhile. It's not worth putting it on a warrant article. If the Trustees won't fund it, Hilary motioned to fund the program for February and March at a cost of \$200.00 and Norma seconded. All in favor.

Fundraiser at The Rocks – Storytellers Rebecca Rule and Fred Marple, scheduled for September 12, 2026 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. The Rocks can accommodate no more than 140 people. The contract deposit is \$50.00 and the cost is \$300.00 for a one half of a day. Hilary will borrow chairs from All Saints. Table for speakers for book signing? Norma will bring \$50.00 check on Saturday for the deposit. Hilary suggested a donation jar for snacks at the event to pay for drinks. The ticket price hasn't been set yet and discussion will continue. We need to find someone to make a poster for advertising, designing of tickets, and other advertising. Speakers are \$300.00 each for a total of \$600.00.

February Brainstorming – lunch meeting – focus group topic discussion – Wednesday, February 11, 2026. Candy, Norma, Laura, Sue, Allegra, and Sally plan to attend at 11:00AM. Ideas are welcome.

Meredith introduced herself to the group. She is not interested in becoming a Board member, but will attend some meetings.

Norma made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dottie. The meeting adjourned at 6:32pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 5:30pm.