

Friends of the Taft Public Library Minutes
Taft Public Library, Mendon, MA
Jan. 28, 2025, 7:00 PM

Members present: Caitriona Scott, Lisa Bibring, Dona Marie Son, Leigh Martin

Also present: Andrew Jenrich

I. Call to Order & Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Caitriona Scott. Dona Marie Son was welcomed as a new member of the Friends.

II. Minutes

Caitriona moved to accept the Nov. 26, 2024, minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Meeting Updates

The trustees' meeting took place on Jan. 16, 2025, at 6:00 PM. Leigh highlighted topics discussed, including local election and budget updates; the paving project starting in late April/May, during which the library will have to be closed; the rectory group moving to subcommittee status; and the library's offering cardboard boat construction classes later in the spring. Next trustees' meeting is Feb. 6, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

IV. Library Updates

Andrew and trustee James Thach are meeting tomorrow with town administrator Jeremy Stull regarding the rectory feasibility study and Abacus Group's involvement. The town has contracted with CivicsPlus to implement a centralized town website encompassing all departments, including the library. The FY 2026 budget proposal has been submitted and includes a request for more library hours and remediation of the carriage house foundation.

All lighting fixture issues have now been resolved.

The Library of Things is being processed and should be ready for circulation in the near future.

The 25th Cardboard Boat Race is tentatively scheduled for July 22, 2025.

V. Friends Old Business, New Business, and Upcoming Events

Upcoming programming includes a Zentangle class on Feb. 6; a felting class on March 3; a floral basket workshop on April 10; and a historical re-enactment and tea on May 1. The trees for kids and teens giveaway will take place this spring. The seed library is currently being replenished and organized for this growing year. The Story Trail at West Hill is still pending. Books will be collected in April and the book sale will take place in June.

Friends Financial Update: Lisa provided a financial update, and accounts are in good financial health.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.

The next meeting date and time is Feb. 25, 2025, at 7:00 PM.

Minutes by Leigh Martin