

## MEETING MINUTES

Friends of the Tewksbury Library

December 4, 2024

**ATTENDANCE:** Liz Robinson, Nancy Cohen, Diane Giarrusso, Joanne Toppin, Lauren Chappell, Chris Castiglione and Maureen Castiglione

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

### **Acceptance of:**

No quorum. November's minutes were accepted. Made a motion to accept and seconded.

November's Treasurer's Report was approved. Made a motion to accept and seconded.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Diane Giarrusso submitted her report. New town manager and Diane is looking forward to working with him until she retires.

We won Reading Rivals.

Tree Lighting - Emily and Robert might not be there because our craft is paper-based.

Closed December 24-26 and January 1-3.

Program request will be made at the January meeting.

Diane is out from the 14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>.

The Library is starting an adult puzzle collection and people will be able to check them out.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Blind Date With a Book:**

Sales are going well. People seem to like the idea so we intend to continue with the program. We started with about 35 books and were quickly down to 2. We added 40 more books. After our next book drive, we will prepare more books for sale. If anyone wants to donate hardcover books in good condition before the book drive, just get in touch with Friends and we will work with you to get the books. We have sold over 50 books.

Lauren C., Liz, R., Janis G., and Nancy C. wrapped the books.

### **Friends Awareness Program:**

Creating awareness of what the Friends do for the library is an ongoing effort. Our goal going forward will be to have a presence at in-person events expected to have large turnouts. We will have a visible table with two volunteers sharing out mission, passing out information, and hopefully receiving some donations.

### **Countdown to Christmas:**

Sales started November 9<sup>th</sup>. A request was made for more gift cards of any denomination of \$10 or more. This is our last fundraiser of the year. Janis G. was thanked for once again spearheading this event. Over \$1,000 has been raised.

Last Library Sale Date of Raffle Tickets: Tuesday, December 10, 5:00 – 7:00 pm

### **Kyoto Dine-Out – November 13<sup>th</sup>:**

This fundraiser resulted in a check to the Friends for \$200.

### **Friends Meetings:**

Friends Zoom meetings will start January 8<sup>th</sup> and will be carried out over Zoom until summer.

### **Friends Meeting Information:**

Minutes, current meeting agendas, and the Director's report can be found on the Friends' website under the tab "About Us" instead of being e-mailed to everyone.

Attendance at meetings has been sparse. In 2025, we may reconsider in-person meetings except for the Annual Meeting.

### **Friends E-Mails:**

Mary-Ann will continue to review e-mail subscribers so that we don't hit 500. Many of our members are "Potential Members". She will remove those people who have been on the Potential Members' list the longest to keep our cost down with our e-mail provider, Constant Contact.

### **Open Space Winter Walk:**

Since no one volunteered to take over this task from Mary Ann and Liz R., Friends will not be participating this year.

### **Giving Tuesday:**

A notice was included in the library's weekly newsletter, asking people to consider donating to the Friends.

**New Business:**

Friends will have a notice in the Library's December 15<sup>th</sup> e-mail, asking people to consider donating to the Friends in 2024.

**January:**

January is membership month. People were asked to renew their membership for 2025. We will have a presence at the Library during January to promote membership. Details on which dates will be available after Christmas. Lifetime members are asked if they would be willing to make a donation.

**Book Donation Drive:**

Saturday, in early February from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. Final date will be announced after the holidays.

**2025 Fundraisers:**

Everyone is asked to start thinking of 2025 fundraisers that we can discuss at the January meeting.

Joanne made a motion to adjourn. Maureen seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm.