



FRIENDS OF THE W.K. SANFORD COLONIE TOWN LIBRARY MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 12th, 2025 6:00PM

ATTENDING

Edye Benson, Judi Gallop, Nicole Hoffman, Mary Ellen Jung, Sue Kenneally, Ruth Lyons, Louise McColgin, Mary Powers, Elliot Robins, Amy Sonder, Jenn Soucy, Claudia Thornton, Elissa Valente, Mary Van Ullen, Debra Waite. (NOTE; Becky was unable to attend this meeting and Amy served as chair.)

LIBRARY REPORT

Elissa reported that the summer has been very busy. They are holding an art show to mark the end of the Color My World program. There will be a play written and performed by the teens beforehand. The RFID tagging project is ongoing. When self-checkout becomes available, it will be optional for patrons and some items will need to be checked out by staff. The library is beginning to work on a strategic plan forward to 2027. Elissa asked Friends to complete a SWOT Analysis during the meeting as input for the plan. There is a new app for the library, UHLS Libraries, which replaces UHLS Mobile. A few Friends have used it and have positive reviews.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Leslye was unable to attend the meeting, but Friends reviewed the report she had prepared.

2025 Friends of the Library Budget Month of July	
Total Income	\$5741.42
Total Expenses	\$4517.19
Total Balance in Accounts	\$161677.35

Edye noted that the Book Nook has done very well on the Saturdays when the weather has cooperated. Even though vendor participation at the Farmers' Market is down, the park is often very busy with walkers. We had two successful pop-up sales in July. There was a question about the cost of the adult book display piece and Elissa reported that it's all paid and came in at less than was anticipated.

REQUESTS

Two additional museum passes were purchased, for the Corning Glass museum and the Berkshire Botanical Garden.

1.Name: Jennifer Soucy Full amount: \$4,500

What is the funding for? Library Speakers Consortium Virtual Author Talks for 3 Years
In May, we had an in-house program and a virtual program with author Lisa Jewel. The Library Speakers Consortium is a community of libraries cultivating lifelong learning, cultural understanding, and connection through a wide selection of literary experiences. Included are conversations with best-selling authors, multiple live events each month, on-demand access to past recordings, custom branded microsites, ready-to-use and customizable marketing resources, activities and discussion guides, etc.

Category: Adult Programming Date Funding is Required:

This request was not reflected in the current budget.

There was some discussion about paying for the request, since it wasn't in the original budget. We are expected to have some excess funds related to the unanticipated lower pricing of the adult display piece.

Edye moved to approve, Mary Ellen seconded. The motion was approved.

NOTE: Subsequent to the meeting, it was discovered that the \$4,500 price was per year, not for all three years. For now, the library has withdrawn the request.

2.Name: Jennifer Soucy Funding Amount :\$525

What is the funding for? Music program that has already been approved. The Music Union usually offers us many musical performances. This one is the Songs of the Sisterhood. Please join us for the program.

Category: Adult Programming Date Funding is Required: Jen has the invoice-have the money go to Kathy for a check.

This request has already been approved. No vote needed.

WEBSITE, FACEBOOK, PUBLICITY, NEWSLETTER

Mary is working on a newsletter. If you would be willing to write up a brief article about your experience volunteering with the Friends, please let her know.

BOOK NOOK –Open Sat. 9-1, May 3rd through Sept. 20th. Please sign up to volunteer if possible!

HARVEST FEST–Saturday, Sept. 27, 11-3

POP-UP BOOK SALE (at library) 10-1

- Saturday August 23rd (the library will be hosting a puzzle swap that morning)

FALL BOOK SALE

Tentative schedule:

- Set up tables in room: Sat. Sept. 20
- Soccer team move in books: Sun Sept 21
- Unback boxes and organize Sun Sept 21-Wed Sept 24
- Preview night: Thurs Sept 25, 4-7 \$5 entry fee
- Regular sale: Fri Sept 26-Saturday Sept 27
- Sun Sept 28 (\$5 bag sale, with larger bags priced higher)
- Clean-up Mon Sept 29 10-12

- Soccer team moves boxes out Mon Sept 29, 6pm
- Refreshments for volunteers, including soccer teams
- Advertisements: Amy got a grant from Times Union to cover an ad with them run on Sept 21

Please sign up to help!

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

There was some discussion about giving price breaks to teachers at the book sale, but this would complicate matters for volunteers working the sale. Some Friends noted that the sale is our big fundraiser for the year and we want to make the most from it. It also could be argued that other groups also might feel they deserve a discount. Some noted that a dollar a book is already a bargain. We could consider giving teachers some price break at the pop-up sales.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm. **The next meeting will be held on Tues. Sept. 9th , 2025, in person at the library at 6:00pm.**

Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by Mary Van Ullen, Secretary.