

FRIENDS OF THE W.K. SANFORD COLONIE TOWN LIBRARY

MEETING MINUTES

July 14 2026

Attending

Jennifer Soucy, Becky Klope, Nicole Hoffman, Ruth Lyons, Claudia Thornton, Elliot Robins, Edye Benson, Louise McColgin, Mary Frances Fitzgerald, Ryan Spinner, Marissa Pazienza

Library Report

Approx 760 visitors to the Summer Reading Kick-Off event on July 10th. Lots of fun activities, attendees seemed to be having fun.

Summer Reading sign-ups: approx. 100 adults, 100 teens, 600-700 kids currently signed up. Discussed new format (logging time read vs bingo/category set-up).

By-Laws Update:

Revisions to insurance section made due to the need for FOL to carry its own general liability and D&O coverage. Motion by Louise, 2nd by Edye, passed, changes being officially incorporated.

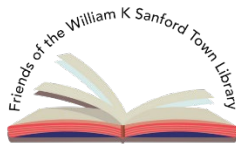
Treasurers Report

June financials reviewed; Book Nook made \$1,900, about \$2,200 in donations received. A \$3,000 grant was received from The Arts Center of the Capital Region for activities this fall (music and crafts, multiple classes through Oct and Nov 2026). The Albany Artists Group sent a card with a \$200 donation. Library Staff gave FOL a thank you card for support shown throughout the year.

Requests

Request #1

1. **Name:** Ann-Marie Helldorfer
2. **Funding Amount:** \$110
3. **What is the funding for?** Equipment and supplies to cover Braille books to circulate. Our summer intern, Sarah Wilson, will develop a new Braille book collection for youth. The oversized paper books need to be protected and readied for patrons to borrow. With these supplies ordered, she can create custom-sized covers sturdy enough to stand up to patron use.



4. **Category:** Collection **Date funding is required:** July 2026

Request #2

1. **Name:** Jessica Kaercher
2. **Funding Amount:** \$ 93
3. **What is the funding for?** Easy English News newspaper - 3 months, 8 copies each month I would like to run a new program in October-December that would use printed newspapers from EasyEnglishNews.com. The program is "English Language Learners: Let's Talk About It." (This is replacing the Practice English Conversation program.) Adult volunteers will sit with small groups of adult English learners to read and discuss articles from the Easy English News newspaper. The paper has appropriate articles about living in the US, US history, and general life skills. The articles are not political or controversial. The paper includes vocabulary for the articles, plus an additional section on pronunciation. Using the paper will save me a lot of time, and ensure the participants learn helpful information.
4. **Category:** Adult Programming **Date funding is required:** Aug. 30, 2026

Website, Facebook, Publicity Newsletter

N/A

Book Nook

Book Nook has been successful; lots of new faces both volunteering and shopping this year. Have had great weekly sale totals.

Volunteers

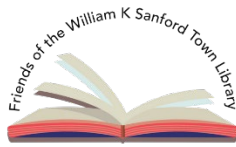
Summer Reading Kick-Off tabling was successful, was able to sell two blankets and tell people about our mission, Book Nook, Fall Book Sale, etc. Discussed ideas for next year's kickoff; theme will be Mystery book centered; could have bookmark decorating or a decoder activity for kids.

Discussed general idea of a volunteer appreciation get-together with prizes for top volunteers (based on number of volunteer slots throughout the year).

Talked about a Black Friday weekend tabling with blanket bundles (blanket and a book).

Fall Book Sale

Reviewed schedule, will likely have sign-ups ready sometime in August



Comments/Questions

Discussed adult prizes for the Summer Reading Program; will be able to use the rest of the bookmarks. Suggestion made for a private pop-up sale for the winners.

Adjourned

7:06pm

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be on August 11th

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Nicole Hoffman and Tori Behrmann