

Friends of Boyden Library  
April Meeting Minutes  
April 1, 2026 Meeting

**Present:** Sue Collins, Maureen Ryan-Wise, Katherine Howard, Betsy Lorusso, Margi Rosetti, Bernadette Thie, Lesleyann Foster, Colleen McManus, Janice Rosado, Charles DiPompo, Kelly Conger, Ashley Clement, Kirstin Stone, Libby O'Neill, Jennifir Huston, Emma Brelsford, Lori Capone, guest.

**Meeting called to order:** Sue Collins called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

**YA Librarian's Report:** Jennifir Huston

- March programs sponsored by Friends:
- March 9<sup>th</sup>: Teen Take & Make: Art Magnets: featuring stolen art images from the Gardner Museum: 5 attendees
- March 12<sup>th</sup>: Sumingashi Printing w/ Water Lily Designs: 9 attendees
- Upcoming programs sponsored by Friends:
- April: Pipe Cleaner Flowers with Sidney & Aiden Soul Speak Alchemy Box with Klassic Kreations.  
May: Make it Stick: Sticker Design Workshop with Heidi & Nilo Crafty Teens.  
Recycled Book Craft: Bright Path Letter Project lead by Teen: Saanvi
- Tinker Tank: 5 appointments were made in March.
- Summer Reading: All prizes are ordered and working on Beanstack.
- School Visits: FCS on May 4<sup>th</sup>, Ahern on May 7<sup>th</sup>, FHS working on a collaborative visit with ELA teachers.
- Founder's Day Parade: Jennifir and Ashley have Flower and Tree themed decorations. Teen volunteers will walk the parade route. A teen volunteer will create vinyl banners with Summer Reading and Boyden Library to decorate the float.

**Children's Librarian Report:** Emma Brelsford

- Friends sponsored event in March: Lippan Tea Light Holders w/Water Lily Design: 10 attendees.
- Upcoming Friends sponsored events:
- 4/22: Massachusetts Horticultural Society Plantmobile: Natural Dyes & Fabrics
- 4/24: Animal Craze Traveling Farm: Baby Animal Farm
- 4/25: Hands on Nature: Pollinators of New England
- Purchased Amazon supplies for the new Paper Tree in the children's room, bookmarks, terracotta pots for Boyden Buds Garden Club, and sprout clips to hand out on Founders' Day.

**Approval of March Minutes:** Betsy Lorusso

Betsy asked for motion to accept the March Minutes. Sue made motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bernadette. Motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report:** Katherine Howard

- Amazon Prime subscription auto charged \$129.00 in February.
- Operating expenses for Programming/Supplies/Events-pending 4/01/2026 - \$6000.00.
- Income total: \$2219.47 - Membership (\$1220.00) Donations (\$315.00) Book Shop (\$371.00) Donnelly Delivers (\$313.74).
- Expenses – Total \$5406.00 -Zoo Passes (\$5105.00) – Other (Printing, Advertising and Ed O'Leary Collection).
- Zoo Passes on sale \$20.00 cash or check with no limits. Zoo opened April until October.
- Taxes continue to be calculated, 75% complete.
- Sue made a motion to give Shruthi \$100 compensation for Founders Day. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Margi. Motion passed.
- Katherine asked for motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Mo made motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bernadette. Motion passed.

### **Director's Report:** Libby O'Neill

- Thank you to the Friends for sponsoring the Community Reads promotional materials, the take and make craft kits, and the two workshops (teen and adult) for Suminagashi Art with Water Lily Design.
- We had such a great Community Reads month and author event (83 attendees!).
- Upcoming Friends sponsored adult programs:
  - April 4 - Cookie Decorating with Mandy
  - April 16 - Bead Therapy Workshop
  - April 18 - Soul Speak Alchemy Box with Klassic Kreations (rescheduled from February)
  - April 21 - Puzzle Competition with "Free Book" coupons to the winning team to shop at any of the Friends Book Shops
  - April 26 - Rupert Wates concert which will be our last concert of the season.
- Libby is working with Be Inclusive, a non-profit out of Walpole, to do a Let's Talk Race: Program on April 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Would love for Friends to attend to have an honest and engaging conversation about race.
- The logo committee has selected a new logo! It will go before the Trustees for a vote on April 7<sup>th</sup>, and then can be voted on by the Friends to adopt it.
- November Book Sale dates: Set up Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, Sale: Nov 5-7<sup>th</sup>.
- Friends November Monthly meeting changed to Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> to accommodate the book sale dates.
- Juvi Love sent a request seeking funds from the Friends to help support the Short Film Festival. The total cost is \$2075. The Friends had a brief discussion and decided that because their mission is to support the Library and fund programs and services that they would not support this request. However, they would be open to sponsoring an award again this year at the Short Film Festival.

### **Trustee Report:** Ashley Clements

- Community Reads was excellent.

- Town election is coming up and there are 2 Trustee seats to fill.
- Teen room \$30,000.00 capital was approved but needs to be approved at Town Meeting.
- Kevin Penders has been on the Board of Trustees for 15 years, April was his last meeting. Thank you, Kevin for all you've done for Boyden Library!

**Membership:** Colleen McManus

- 167 renewed. 5 in March are brand new.
- Last year 157 at this time. Up 10 members.
- New members will be printed in the upcoming newsletter.
- Colleen will give Janice the membership forms that checked off wanting to learn more about volunteer opportunities.
- Holly Steel was the raffle winner of bag of books, from the fall book sale. Her photo will be in April's Newsletter.
- Katherine and Colleen will volunteer at the membership table at the Spring Book Sale.
- Lesleyann will have volunteer spots for Book Sale going out on Sign up Genius.

**Newsletter:** Bernadette Thie

- Libby will submit a photo from the Community Reads for the newsletter.
- The Newsletter will be sent out via email the first week of April.

**Book Shop:** Margi Rossetti

- Matt Donnelly came March 25<sup>th</sup> and took a big haul from sorting room.
- On Book Donation day, Friends received 3 boxes of the book, *Pros and Cons* by local author, Paul Difazio. For the book sale, Margi has decided to fill one of the big bins with 2 boxes of these books with a sign LOCAL AUTHOR on the box. Any unsold copies will be put in Last Chapter Book Shop.
- Margi will start the raffle bag and will put one of Mr. Difazio's books in the bag.

**Book Sale:** Lesleyann Foster

- At the last book drive, we had lots of new volunteers, unfortunately there were not many donations. Some of these volunteers will be at the April 11<sup>th</sup> book drive.
- Mary Ellen Shriver and Nancy Messeck volunteered.
- Betsy Buckland will hang signs advertising the Book Sale.
- Book sale signup genius coming out soon, April 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Zoo graphics are complete.
- Fall Book Drive Dates: Sept 26<sup>th</sup> & Oct 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business:** By Laws Committee – Sue Collins, Mo Ryan, Charles DiPompo and Kirstin Stone

- The corrected By Laws to be sent out and will be reviewed by the majority.
- A thank you was received from the Legislative Breakfast for our donation.

**New Business:** Founders Day June 6<sup>th</sup>

- The application for Founders Day is signed and a \$40 check given to Janice.
- Ashley proposes making mugs and magnets printed with the new logo to be sold at Friends Founders Day booth. Janice made motion of up to \$200 to for fundraising merchandise using the approved new logo. Janice made motion. Kelley 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. Motion passed.
- Libby will get designer to add Friends of Boyden on the new logo design and will send by email for Friends' approval.
- Katherine reported that Friends has received the Point 32 donation from Colleen's work. Thank you to Colleen for applying for this grant.

**Adjourn Meeting:** Sue Collins requests a motion to adjourn. Ashley made motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Colleen. Motion passed.

**Next Meeting: May 6, 2026 7 p.m. in the Boyden Community Room**

Respectfully submitted by: Betsy Lorusso, Secretary