

Friends of the Muskingum County Library

March 11, 2026

Present: John Furek, President; Bev Bell, Vice President; Karla Frye, Secretary; Laura Natalie, Treasurer; Sally Banfield, Past President; Sue Danhauer, At Large, Membership & Events; Janet James, South Rep; Terri Taylor, Duncan Falls Rep; Joanne Brown, Nominating; Lindsay Rayner, At Large; Sean Fennell, MCLS Rep

Absent: Joyce Patton, New Concord Rep

FOL Guest: Laura Templin

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by the President at **4:30 PM**.

Minutes:

- Minutes from the February previous meeting reviewed and approved with one correction, that the April operational date referred to the bookmobile, not the library itself - Motion to accept minutes passed. Laura Natalie motioned, Janet James seconded

Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer Laura Natalie reported a beginning balance: \$11,383.98
 - Income: donations totaling \$1,246.70. Expenses will include new shelving for the bookstore, and a one month Book Page subscription,
 - Ending balance: \$11,032.47 - Report filed for audit with no questions

Library Update

- February volunteer hours: 49.5 hours (total year-to-date: 123+ hours) - Grand opening confirmed for May 1st, 4-7pm (one month ahead of schedule) - Opening coincides with First Friday event with local artists - Regular hours begin Saturday, May 2nd - Final touches will continue throughout the year

Branch Reports

- New Concord - March 28: Bouquets and Books program (making crafts from books) - April 1: Regular meeting plus book sale setup -April 2-4: Donation-only book sale during library hours - April 4: Pancakes and Paperbacks event at Norwich Lodge - June 2: Summer reading kickoff with dinosaur theme
- Roseville- Next meeting: March 18 - T-shirts arrived April 11: Craft bazaar during library hours (10am-2pm) - May 5: Farmers market begins - Membership drive successful: 31 members now enrolled

- Duncan Falls- Meeting held on April 6 - Next meeting: April 16 - April 24: Spring festival with Ohio Canid Society (fox presentation) - June 3: Summer reading kickoff, 4-6pm -Considering participation in Duncan Falls yard sale (June 5-6) - still under discussion
- South- Funded lunch for Mosaic company lunch and learn program - March 28: Pancake and Paperback breakfast at Fultonham Lodge, 8-11am

Committee Updates

Outreach Shelves

- February revenue: \$47.23 from single pickup - Year-to-date total: \$605.06 - Four boxes of books distributed to shelves, only one box returned - Three locations confirmed willing to continue: Taste of Ohio, Weasel Boy, Downtown Exchange - Weasel Boy reports regular weekly visitors checking for new books - Downtown Exchange moved shelf to more accessible location in left lobby - All locations are donation-based - Need volunteers to "adopt" each location for regular stocking - Plan to vote on continuation when bookstore opens May 1st

Bookstore Committee

- Seven boxes still need to be unloaded - Large donation of children's word books received from Pennsylvania - Audio materials brought in from cold storage, some were damp and needed drying - All audio materials now shelved - Young adult boxes unpacked - Fiction: have four full shelves worth, only three shelves available -Nonfiction: organized by Dewey Decimal (0-99, 100-199, etc.) - 12 shelves available,only 4 currently full - Audio visual materials: one full wall of shelves plus two additional shelf sets in back room - No longer need: audiobooks, DVDs, CDs

(fully

stocked) - Need to contact people storing books at home for pickup

- Opening Preparations- Need committee meeting to organize opening procedures - Sales tracking forms available upstairs in office supply area - Need training for volunteers on sales procedures - Discussion of special friends-only preview event with raffles and special books - Potential to generate revenue with bookstore now open - Committee meeting needed beforeMay 1st opening

Membership

- Current total: 139 members - Memberships for Main library location down (people waiting for reopening) - Branch memberships continuing to come in - Plan to actively recruit memberships at May 1st opening - Will have membership table at opening event

Program/Funding

- Books & Brews date: Two weeks from meeting date (March 26) - Current registrations: 15 people (capacity: 75) - Last year's attendance: approximately 67-68 people - Setuptime: 4pm (event starts 5:30pm) - Using library trivia questions from withdrawn triviagame - Two rounds of 10 questions each (general trivia and literature-based) - Gift cards for winners of each round (no grand prize) -

Book Page

- Book Page rep agreed to allow us re-subscribe when financially able

Publicity and Public Relations

- Appearance on WHIZ Monday to discuss Weasel Boy event - Will mention May 1st library opening and note bookstore opening that night - Bookstore opening on Friday is special (not normally open Fridays) - Texas Roadhouse fundraiser night: July 8th

Facebook Page

- As of February 28: 350 followers - Seeking ways to increase engagement - Event information includes Facebook page details - Will post raffle item photos leading up to Books and Brews

PAC Report

- 501(c)(4) status confirmed with documentation found by Sean in Google Drive - Document dated 2019 when remodel discussions began - Celebration that official documentation finally located -
- Discussion of potentially separating to obtain 501(c)(3) status for grant eligibility - May need separate tax identification number -

Muskingum County Reading Festival

- -Date: Saturday, September 26, 2026, 10am-1pm - Location: Colony Square Mall -Suggestion to have two tables: one for book donations, one for membership recruitment - Last year had good attendance with donation book table

Next meeting is Wednesday April 8, 2026, at 4:30

Meeting location: John McIntire Library