

Friends of the Muskingum County Library

April 8, 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; Joyce Patton, New Concord Rep; Sean Fennell, MCLS Rep

Absent: Lindsay Rayner, At Large

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

Minutes:

- A motion was made by Sally Banfield to accept previous meeting minutes with typo corrections, and seconded by Beverly Bell.

Treasurer's Report:

- Beginning balance for March: \$11,032.47. Income sources included membership donations, DVD sales, outreach collections, Bourbon and Books t-shirt sales. The Books and Brew fundraiser generated \$1,010. Received lifetime family membership and \$20 for two-year renewal- Bank interest: \$0.95- Ending balance: \$12,670.65- Report filed for audit

Library Update

- March volunteer hours: 145 hours- Year-to-date total: 307.5 hours
Mall outreach location closing April 17th due to staffing constraints and prioritization of bookmobile service- Traded one outreach stop for expanded Muskingum County coverage via bookmobile- Bookmobile will have scheduled monthly stop at mall as replacement
- Partnership with Colony Square Mall continues for fall Reading Festival (formerly Family Reading Festival)
- Jess Goodwin introduced as new Marketing Community Relations Assistant- Currently in third week of employment- Background: Born and raised in New Concord, grew up using New Concord branch
- Summer Reading Theme: "Unearth a Story"- Heavy focus on dinosaurs- Program simplified to focus 100% on minutes read instead of activities- Community goal: 2.5 million minutes read-
- Funding request for summer reading was made of \$10,000 from Friends- A motion was made for Friends to contribute \$8,000 and Betty Y. Black Family

Foundation to contribute \$2,000- Motion made by Sally Banfield and seconded by Joyce Patton - Motion approved unanimously

Branch Reports

- New Concord- Book sale held Thursday-Saturday, generated over \$500- Pancake breakfast raised approximately \$150- Mother's Day bouquet program scheduled April 30th (folding books into bouquets)- Summer reading kickoff: June 2nd, 4:00-5:30 PM- Dino Detective Program: June 26th- Meeting room requests for John McIntyre available first week of May- Storage unit full of books available for other branches (mostly nonfiction)- Planning summer bike rodeo with New Concord Police Department- Kids reading area set up as forest theme with seasonal change options
- Roseville- Branch meeting scheduled for Wednesday- Bazaar scheduled for Saturday, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM- At least 10 vendors signed up- Farmers market starts May 5th, 3:00-6:00 PM in backyard- Reading kickoff: June 1st
- Duncan Falls- Meeting scheduled for next Thursday 4/16 at 4:00 PM- Spring Festival: April 24th- Summer reading event: June 3rd- Will discuss branch needs at upcoming meeting
- South- Helping with Pancakes and Paperbacks event- Location: Open Camp Lodge- Date: Saturday, April 18th, 8:00-11:00 AM
- Dresden - Spring Festival: Saturday, April 18th- Book sale setup: April 24th- Book sale: Saturday, April 25th (members 9:00-10:00 AM, public 10:00 AM-1:30 PM)- Second floor remodeling planned for end of April- Need to clear all book donations from second floor- Considering farmers market (day not yet determined)- Summer reading program: Saturday, June 6th- Planning "Touch a Truck" event with fire trucks and other vehicles- Flyer posted online

Committee Updates

Outreach Shelves

- March income from one pickup: \$48.20- One-year total from outreach: \$653.26- Three locations want to continue: Weasel Boy, Taste of Ohio, Downtown Exchange- Honor system donation-based, no tax tracking required- Signs created to inform about bookstore reopening- Weasel Boy accounts for approximately 60% of outreach revenue- Weasel Boy donated shelf of coffee table books and collectibles- Books exchanged every two weeks works best-

Bookstore Committee

- Round table to be removed from bookstore- Low table and chairs donated by Laura for children's area- Need to maintain 3-foot ADA-compliant aisles-

- Checkout desk approved: single drawer desk, 36 inches wide, 20+ inches deep- Cost: \$101.99 plus shipping- Rich will add casters for mobility- Desk can be moved against wall when not in use-

Membership

- Current membership: 142 members- Many people waiting until May reopening to renew- Expect increase in memberships during grand opening events- Membership renewals are calendar year based- Friends flyers will be distributed at opening

Program/Funding

- Books and Brews had 32 raffle items (correction from previously reported 33)- 36 people pre-registered, 3 walk-ins, 14 no-shows- Total attendance: 39 people- Suggestion to require prepayment for future events (possibly \$20 advance, \$25 at door)- Consideration for silent auction table for items valued over \$100-150- Alternative: different colored tickets at higher price for premium items-Five new Facebook followers from event- This was the third Books and Brews event (not fourth)- Fall committee meeting planned to brainstorm improvements
- Texas Roadhouse event scheduled for July 8th- Request for library to create and share promotional materials- Friends want advance notice to promote on Facebook- Suggested posting well in advance (more than 10 days) for scheduling purposes

Facebook Page

- Facebook page has 357 followers- Five new followers from Books and Brews event

Meeting adjourned at 5:31

Next meeting is Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 4:30

Meeting location: John McIntire Library