

Minutes of The Friends of Paw Paw District Library

**The was meeting was called to order March 26, 2025 at 4:00 P.M.
at the Paw Paw District Library.**

Those attending:

**Kris Steward – Director – President
Cindy Barres – Director - Vice President
James Miller – Director – Secretary
Susan Anderson - Director - Membership
Carla Chase - Director
Gretchen Evans - Director of The Paw Paw District Library
Nina Consolatti – Friend of The Library
Charlie Robertson – Friend of The Library
Connie Peruchietti – Friend of The Library**

Those absent:

**Tom Shoemaker – Director – Treasurer
Darlene Wilson – Director**

Secretary's Report:

Minutes of the previous meet were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report:

Tom was pleased to share the latest balance sheet showing current amount of \$11,072.29. Tom will be submitting the paperwork to maintain the 501 (c) (3) status as a Non-profit organization prior to the next meeting. We are a member of The Friends of Michigan Libraries and their newsletter is available to us, please contact Tom to secure the password to get the newsletter.

Membership Report:

Susan reported that there was one renewal letter sent out this month. Susan has spoken with Joan for a smooth transfer of responsibilities and processes associated with our membership operations.

Book Sales Committee Report:

This was the last meeting before our Used Book Sale, scheduled for May 16 and 17, 2025. Much needed to be reviewed before then.

Susan is scheduling volunteers for this fund-raising event. A list of openings was passed around the table, and members will be telephoned in the near future to fill the time slots.

The advertising for our Book Sale was discussed. The Library will have the information in their Newsletter and Website, The Friend's Facebook Page will carry the advertisement and information. Also discussed a more robust effort with the flyers that Nina prepares and engage more area businesses: Lion's Club, Freshwater Church, Senior Center, Biggby Coffee, and Lucky Wolf.

Darlene will be scheduling and managing the books being transported from Sporting Image, on Red Arrow Highway to the Library's Program Room on Thursday, May 15.

As has been done successfully, a pre-sale will be held on Thursday for members. It has been suggested, and now included in the pre-sale are teachers from Paw Paw with their school identity tags to obtain books for their use in school.

Carla made some suggestions regarding the book collecting, sorting, and storage processes that make our Used Book Sales our major fund-raising events.

Halting the monthly book drop off. She noted that at times the books donated are in no shape to be used in our book sale. She reminded us that books and material that have been stored in unheated locations, are dirty or pest ridden are of no value to the Friend's Used Book Sale and should be discarded.

The In-Library On-going Book Sale is quite successful. This is newly instituted with the help of Library Staff. During the first three months several hundred dollars were collected as the books being sold are of high quality and highly

desirable. If this is to continue as well as it has, a cadre of volunteers can be recruited and trained in the process. Then on a rotating basis, these people will take care and maintain this ongoing event.

The space for book sorting and storage at Sporting Image is being modified. Carla and Darlene will be working with the owners to better utilize this space.

Carla will not be available to spend a lot of time to work with used books next winter, so there is a need for more volunteers to learn the intricacies of the book sorting process.

As the In-Library On-Going Books Sale continues to grow in popularity, perhaps we could look at having only one Used Book Sale per year.

These suggestions are well thought through, and will need discussion and action, if needed, in the upcoming months. Thank you, Carla.

Friends Sponsored Book Club Committee:

Kris reported that the three Friends Read Book Club meetings have been successful. Susan will provide snacks for the April meeting. It was suggested that a listing of titles that were presented at the Book Club meetings be published on the Friends Page of the Library's website.

Friends Membership Committee:

The Membership Committee will hold a meeting immediately after today's Friend's meeting. Kris and Susan will share some great ideas like having a great reason in a few words as to why The Friends of The Library is a worthy endeavor. Membership pins will also be discussed. We await the outcome of this meeting.

Fundraising Committee:

Carla shared that plans are underway for an event at Can Do Acre to be in October. This will be a fund-raising event for The Friends, and a great opportunity to bring a friend to the Group.

Library Director's Report:

During the February 5, 2025 meeting, Library Director Evans requested funding for Library Programs that The Friend's Group normally supports.

A motion was made and supported to support the following programs:

Summer Reading Program - \$500.

Spooktacular - \$300

Geek Fest - \$400

Santa's Winter Workshop - \$300

This motion passed by all voting members, and a check for \$1500 was provided to Gretchen.

Director Evans spoke of the Design Charrette that was held in February. Many members from the community attended and with guidance of the Design Engineering firm, identified priorities that were seen as important for the outdoor space west of the Library Building. The next step in the design is in progress and that outcome will be shown at The Library as it happens.

Director Evans suggested that a Trunk Sale can be held at the Library as a fund-raising event as well as another outreach. This plans for this event came together immediately, with June 21, 2025 being selected at the day for this event. An entrance fee of \$15 to have a space for a car and associated table to display and sell one's Garage Sale type items. The Library will be handling the necessary pre-registration and share the stipulations that must be followed. The event will take place for 9am to 1 pm on the Summer Solstice.

Director Evans was asked about the potential changes to Library operations and services due to funding changes and cultural shifts issued by the current administration. The Michigan Library Association (MLA) has published the possible effects that would impact the operation of the Libraries in Michigan, including our very own. The MLA publication will be provided to the Friend's Group for our edification.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 28, 2025 at The Library.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**James W. Miller
Director – Secretary**