

Friends of the Millis Public Library  
Monthly Meeting  
May 27, 20206  
Called to order at 6:02 p.m.

Attendance:

Sandra Elaine Scott- President, Art Payne- Vice President, Meghan Gavaghan - Treasurer, Julie Ackley – Recording Secretary, Kim Tolson – Director, Diane Jurmain, Diana Nunnaley, Jane Hardin, Erin Underhill, Jennifer Farrar,  
Via Zoom: Jen Payne and Becky Fong

Acceptance of Minutes:

Meghan made a motion to accept the April 2026 minutes, Sandra seconded the motion, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Meghan presented the Treasurer's report. Overall, the finances look good. The St. Pauly's Textile Shed is doing better than expected. The remaining books from the Spring Book Sale were brought to Savers by Brian Gavaghan. Total income for the month, including the interest on our accounts was \$758.41.

Expenses were a bit high for the month. Two Museum passes were renewed, the FMPL Scholarship was handed out, and because the Clicquot Club is booming – more snacks are needed. The total expenses for the month was \$1,977.

The Outstanding Commitments stands are \$4,398.96, which does not reflect the \$4,000 that was voted on in April.

Director's Report:

Kim presented a summary of the Past Programs that were offered by the Library. All of the programs have been very well attended, especially the programs that were provided for April vacation. The upcoming events look very interesting with something for all age groups. The Library received the new desktops, laptops and Chromebooks. They are in the process of being set up, with help from the Mass Broadband Institute. The Trustees voted to cover the gap between the gap between the state aid and the friends.

Several issues about the Library website came up. There are some sections that are duplicated – Kim to fix them. The Scholarship application is still up and needs to be removed.

Trustees Report:

Jennifer has stepped from the Trustees. Becky is the new chair, Jonathan is the new secretary and Olivia Di Ramio is the new Trustee at large.

A question was raised about how cuts in library funding are affecting the library. Kim responded that our library, currently, is fully funded and in good shape. The Baker &

Taylor bankruptcy has affected how the library now purchases the books. One company now controls the prices on books sold to libraries. Ingraham & Amazon are currently the only options to purchase books for adults. We do get a discount as we are members of the Mass Higher Education, but it is not a preferred option. The books do not come in with the covers or codes. There are volunteers who are doing that, with a lot of help from the Library staff. Millis has also been ordering through Ingraham, but they have been very slow processing orders. The Library is working with them to get this issue fixed.

Jennifer brought up the that the Library is in a different financial position now and there needs to be more discussion on what and how programs are funded.

#### New Business:

Art presented the Scholarship Committees report. Jane mentioned that there were really strong candidates with fantastic grades. It was mentioned that the application should be modified to make it more library focused – what the library means to the applicants. Several applicants did write sincere comments about what the Library meant to them – how they had been coming to the Library since they were children and how amazing the staff was. The committee feels that this topic should weigh more in the decision making process. It was brought up that maybe there should be term limits on the committee. It was also mentioned that we should have a picture of the winner up in the Library and invite them to a meeting.

#### Board Elections:

Elections will be held at our June meeting. Let Meghan know if you would like to be on the board, or if you do not want to continue in your role. In terms of positions, our by-laws are flexible to encourage more participants. If you are interested, let us – the Board – find you a position! Art mentioned that he has been Vice-President for a long time and it may be time to move onto another position. Jennifer is interested in becoming Vice-President.

#### St. Pauly's Shed:

We are looking for people to help out at the sorting of the shed. Meghan and Jane are doing May and June. It is relatively easy and takes about 15 to 20 minutes. It is making sure the items are in plastic bags and moving them from the front of the shed to the rear of the shed.

#### Local Events:

Jennifer mentioned that the Cultural Council is having an Art Fair on June 13<sup>th</sup>. She would like to have a membership table at the event, while also having a providing a small craft to do. Millis Community Day is being also discussed for a future date and it was brought up that we should have a membership table at that event also. The Tri-County Taste of Millis is coming up. Jennifer, Erin and Art were interested in having a table at that event also.

Second Annual Sponsorship Campaign:

Diana asked if the Board was interested in doing this again. Diana willing to do it again, but was unsure if Nancy would be able to help. We did receive some sponsors from last year's campaign. Diana did not have the 'net' amount available at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Julie Ackley – Recording Secretary