Friends of the Millis Public Library
Monthly Meeting
September 23, 2026
Called to order at 6:01 p.m.

Attendance:

In-person: Sandra Elaine Scott, Meghan Gavaghan, Julie Ackley, Jane Hardin, Jen Payne, Art Payne, Erin Underhill, Diana Nunnaley, Jennifer Farrar, and new member Madelyn Good.

Via Zoom – Diane Jurmain

Acceptance of June 2026 Minutes:

Meghan made a motion to accept, Jane seconded, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Meghan presented the Treasurer's Report from June 24 – September 23, 2026. The St Pauly's Textile shed continues to do very well.

The Sponsorship Drive did very well. The Library received $1,725 from seven businesses. Madelyn asked if sponsorship were for specific programs or just a general donation to the Friends. Meghan explained that the businesses were given the option for specific or general.

We also received $2,051.69 in donations in memory of Friends members who recently passed away (Brooks Corl and Charlie Vecchi).

Additional income was also positive.

Expenses were high, as the time period covered three months of programs and the Summer Reading prizes. In addition four or five Museum Passes were purchased.

Meghan mentioned that this is the time of year that the Friends start receiving requests for funding programs. One line item on the Outstanding Commitments was the -$285.29 for Adult Programming. Jane made the motion to pay the deficit, Meghan seconded and the motion passed.

Jennifer brought up that the Millis Cultural Council grants were due by October 15, 2026. Jennifer suggested that the Friends should apply for a grant. The Council likes the application to be for a 'set' idea or function. After some discussion, it was decided to potentially apply for a grant for the Millis Reads Program.

Director's Report:

Kim was on vacation, but provided a very detailed summary. The Summer Kids Programs were very well attended!

The other programs provided over the summer were also well attended. The programs for the teens had anywhere from 5 to 15 attending. The Middle School Lock-in was well attended and everyone had a great time!

The Summer Reading Groups were a hit. The Kids/Teens had 115 readers. The Battle of The Books had 28 signed up with 9 teams total. The Adults had 425 bingo game cards go out and 63 people returned with a bingo- which was a new high! 13 returned a completed board – lower than last year but participation in general was up.

When Kim returns from vacation she plans on setting up a meeting to begin planning Millis Reads 2027.

Diana brought up the question if the Middle/High School administration is informed on how many of their students participated? Do they 'see' how many kids actually enjoy reading? The library does work with the schools to encourage home reading – they help to promote and encourage. In the past, the children who completed 'all' the summer readings for school received a 'coupon' for the Book Sale – should we start this up again? And, the schools are notified about the Millis Reads program.

Erin had a thought for programming – Needle Felting for adults. Sandra suggested she reach out to Esther who is in charge of Adult programs. On a side note, the Library staff said that some of the ideas for Rachel & Fatima's board of events for kids, would be great for adults also!

New Business:

2026 Fundraising. Sandra wants everyone to think on, write down any new ideas to raise funds. A meeting will be planned for those interested.

St Pauly's Shed: a lot is being donated – it is being emptied every 7 to 10 days. A reminder needs to be sent out as to what is allowed and what is not. It was suggested that maybe some seniors would be interested in helping with the shed for their Senior Project.

Fall Book Sale is October 16 – October 18 2026. Volunteers welcome!

Madelyn spoke about the Garden Club and the 9 gardens around the library that the club takes care of. Their club has very few members and are

looking for volunteers. She has spoken with the President of the Glen Ellen's Garden Club and they also having issues getting volunteers. Diana suggested forming a Library Garden Club. Erin suggested involving kids from elementary school through High School: forming a 'Junior' Garden Club, having seniors do a Senior Project involving the Garden Club. Jennifer is going to reach out to the schools on how to get kids involved. Meghan will put out an email/post to tell people about coming together to discuss, plan, formulate a club/sub committee to discuss these ideas. The hope is to have kids bring their parents, get new people involved in the community, the library and gardening. Jennifer suggested getting sponsors for the gardens and will talk with Kim.

The Fundraising Meeting will be held October 7th at 6 p.m at the Library.

The next meeting will be October 28, 2026 starting at 6 p.m.
Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Ackley, Recording Secretary.