Friends of the Peabody Institute Library of Danvers

Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2025

Attendees:

Ellen Clarkson, Michele Chausse, Ivy Butterworth, Pat Baker, Kathy Young, Marsha Coogan, Mary Saratora, Deb Wilson, Lori Packert

Welcome:

Ellen Clarkson, President of the Friends, welcomed all to the meeting.

Approval of minutes:

Kathy Young made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 15, 2025 meeting. Michele Chausse, Vice-President, seconded the motion, which was approved by all.

Membership report:

Ellen reported that, as of February 1, 80 people have paid $2,363 in membership fees.

Ivy Butterworth, Recording Secretary, will be sending out a reminder of membership renewal at the end of February.

Museum pass program:

The library provides passes to 15 area museums. Currently, we have spent $4,345 on passes. We are considering acquiring a pass to the Harvard Museums. We can get 50 passes for $50. If four people attend, they would only have to pay half the fee. We will make the public aware of these passes and ask Noelle Boc, Library Director, to publicize their availability.

Finance report:

The Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser brought in a total of $276. Pat Baker, Treasurer, noted that as of February 1, our total balance, which includes both our savings and checking accounts, as well as one CD, is $19,803.57. Our known expenses for Q1, 2025, are $3,400. Our budgeted expenses and income for 2025 are $13,738 and $13,410 respectively.

Program committee/ Calendar review:

Michele Chausse and Marsha Coogan, Program Committee presented information regarding a number of programs/events coming up within the year.

* Saturday, February 22, from 2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.in the Gordon Room. Gospel Ensemble. $800 approved
* Tuesday, March 4, in the Gordon Room from 4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.–An Oral History Workshop. An interactive program to help people learn how they can tell their own story. $300 approved
* Thursday, April 8–Launching National Library Week (April 6-12). Recognition of Peabody Institute Library staff (40 people) with gift bags.

We budgeted $700 for this important recognition.

* Saturday, April 15, in the Gordon Room from 2:00-3:00, Gary Foreman will be presenting an Irish music concert. Michele is making a flyer for this event, which is family-friendly and will include audience participation.
* Tuesday, April 22–Book Sale kick-off meeting from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the classroom. From June 2-June 7, the Book Sale will be set up. The library members preview party will take place on Tuesday, June 10, from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. in the Gordon Room. The Book Sale runs from Wednesday, June 11, through Saturday, June 14.
* Wednesday, April 30–”Blissful Family concert” $400 approved. Program initiated by Amy Martin, Children’s Librarian
* The Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 14, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Gordon Room. The speaker will be [JoeAnn Hart](https://joeannhart.com/about-contact/), an award-winning fiction writer from Gloucester.
* We discussed future events that we would like to support, the first one being our sponsoring a gathering at Endicott Park. Elaine Cidzik has been working with Erika Moretti, the Endicott Park Program Coordinator, to finalize details about this event as well as possible dates and cost.

Pat Baker made a motion to check with Elaine about continuing to plan this event. Kathy Young seconded the motion.

* On a related matter, two park rangers have written and illustrated a children’s book entitled *A Day at Endicott Park*. We discussed purchasing several of these books; no final decision was made.

* August–Sponsor a concert as part of the Danvers Recreation dept.’s summer concert series, perhaps one focusing on country music.
* September or October–Classical Music concert? Marsha has been talking with a woman named Egle Jarkova regarding our sponsoring a trio or duo, with the cost being $1200. Pat Baker made a motion that Marsha continue pursuing this event with Ellen Clarkson providing a second.
* Marsha also has been working with a group called the Delvena Theater, who offer a program called “Truly Eleanor” costing $695. We chose Oct. 4 or 25 as possible dates, with the event taking place at 2:00 p.m. in the Gordon Room. Pat Baker made the motion that Marsha contact the group to make arrangements. Kathy Young seconded the motion.
* Library updates from Noelle Boc, PIL Director. She has been working with the Beverly School for the Deaf to make more programs available to deaf people. She is hoping to have an interpreter available at the Annual Meeting.

New business:

Ellen Clarkson brought up the topic of officers for next year. Michele Chausse is in charge of getting nominees. She will be preparing a draft regarding requirements for each job, such as the nature of the work, the time commitment, as well as whether or not the job requires attendance at each meeting. She will be asking Noelle to post this information on the web. The following positions will be open next year: President, Secretary, and Membership Committee chair. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Ellen. Our meetings are always held on the third Wednesday of each month, rotating between evening and morning.

*The next meeting is Wednesday, March 19, at 10:30 in the classroom.*