



**Friends of the Peabody Institute Library of Danvers**  
**Annual Meeting**  
**May 14, 2025**

**Friends of the Library Attendees:** Anne Casey, Donna Eovacious, Paul Eovacious, Ellen Clarkson, Elizabeth Chouinard, Ivy Butterworth, Kathy Young, Marsha Coogan, Mary Saratora, Maryann Kowalski, Michele Chausse,, Pat Baker, Sharon Jaworski, Trudy Cullen, Madeline Berube, Kate Hannisian, Lori Packert, Deb Wilson, Kathy Doyle, Noelle Boc (Library Director)

**Approval of Minutes:** The motion was made by Anne Casey and seconded by Elizabeth Chouinard to accept the minutes of the April 16th, 2025 Board Meeting. All in favor; the motion carried.

**President's Report:** President Ellen Clarkson welcomed all to the Friends of the Library Annual Meeting, including the guest author JoeAnn Hart and the ASL Interpreters who were present and signing as part of a grant given to the Peabody Institute Library. Ellen introduced and thanked the 2024 Officers and Board Members: President, Ellen Clarkson, Vice President, Michele Chausse, Treasurer, Pat Baker, Recording Secretary, Ivy Butterworth and Directors, Trudy Cullen, Kathy Young (Hospitality Chair) and Lynette Gray (Membership Chair). Ellen recognized and thanked Ivy Butterworth for her service as Recording Secretary. She is stepping down from that position.

Ellen highlighted the Museum Pass Program sponsored by the Friends and its increased use since May 2024. She also noted the many cultural and educational programs supported by the Friends. These programs are funded by Friends Membership dues, the Danvers Community Council grant, and our annual Friends Book Sale.

Ellen noted that Teen Services Librarian, Chelsey Shepherd, is offering a Teen Summer Reading Program. She requested \$200 from the Friends to fund the program. Trudy Cullen made a motion to approve \$200 for the Teen Summer Reading Program.. It was seconded by Anne Casey. All in favor: the motion carried.

**Membership Report:** There are currently 91 members, 14 of whom are new members.

**Treasurer's Report:** Pat Baker presented the budget update and treasurer's report for 2025. As of May 2025, we have money distributed among 3 accounts at M&T Bank (checking, savings and a CD) for a current balance of \$21,840. In the summer 3 museum passes (\$1400) will be funded. In the coming months. the Friends have scheduled four musical/ cultural programs (\$2375). Our current balance is \$21,840. This provides us with the opportunity to expand our offerings in the future.

**Report of the Library Director:** Noelle Boc presented her report to the membership, thanking them for the support the Friends provide and encouraging those in attendance to join if they hadn't already.

She noted that in the last fiscal year the library was open for 3,279 hours, had 284,535 visitors, 324,373 materials checked out and 9,492 people who attended programs!

Also highlighted were The Library of Things, the library's Community Outreach at town events, at the Senior Center, Brightview and other locations, and the Summer Reading Programs being offered to children, teens and adults. Noelle indicated that Narcan and fentanyl test strips, provided by the Public Health Department, are available to the public at the library.

**Nomination Slate for Board of Directors and Voting:** Michele Chausse presented the slate of Officers and Directors up for election for the coming year:

President:	Michele Chausse
Vice President:	Ellen Clarkson
Recording Secretary:	Sharon Jaworski
Treasurer:	Patricia Baker
Directors:	Lynette Gray
	Kathleen Young
	Trudy Cullen

Anne Casey made a motion to elect the slate of Officers and Directors. It was seconded by Marsha Coogan. All in favor; the motion carried.

**Author Presentation:** Michele Chausse introduced our featured author, JoeAnn Hart. Ms. Hart shared insights into her latest book, *Arroyo Circle*, a climate fiction story that takes place in Boulder, Colorado. She shared that this particular book was highly researched and took seven years to complete. Copies of the book will be available at the library in the near future.

**Conclusion:** Michele concluded the meeting thanking JoeAnn Hart, the ASL interpreters and all who attended the meeting and presentation. She encouraged everyone to join us for the annual Book Sale, June 11-14. Book donations may be dropped off at the Gordon Room from June 2-6. Members are invited to the Preview Night on June 10.