



## **Friends of the Peabody Institute Library of Danvers**

### **Minutes of the 1/14/2026 Meeting**

**Friends of the Library Attendees:** Ellen Clarkson, Marsha Coogan, Pat Baker, Donna Armstrong, Linda Boylan, Kathy Young, Noelle Boc (Library Director).

**Welcome:** Ellen Clarkson called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees.

**Approval of Minutes:** Pat Baker made the motion to approve the minutes of the 12/19/2025 meeting. Kathy Young seconded. The motion passed.

**Membership Report:** Ellen reported that Friends has 107 members, 30 of whom are new members. 45 past members have not yet responded. She will send an email blast and follow up afterward with a written letter to those who still have not responded.

**Museum Pass Program:** Pam Santin is working to publicize a Museum of the Month. She has also been looking at which museums other local libraries offer. This is posted on the Drive.

We had previously approved renewal of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Due to increased usage, we approved increasing our membership level from \$225 to \$275. The Harvard Museum passes expired on December 31, but we signed up in February 2025, Pat Baker will contact them regarding this matter. Usage of this museum has been low, so this would be a museum we would want to highlight soon to encourage increased usage.

**Finance and Budget Report:** Noelle Boc suggested that each division librarian (children, teen and adult) be budgeted money to select programs. Pat Baker motioned and Marsha Coogan seconded that Friends fund \$1,000 for each division librarian to offer programming. Each program will include sponsorship by both The Friends and The Danvers Cultural Council. Each librarian will record attendance and report back to The Friends on their chosen programs by August 31 so this information can be included in next year's grant application. The motion carried.

Noelle requested \$250 for a Recovery Corner, a private area where partner organizations can provide material on addiction recovery and mental health support. She needs a bulletin board and bookcase. This is offered at a number of other libraries as a resource for the community in a semi-private setting. Ellen Clarkson made a motion to fund this proposal and Pat Baker seconded. The motion carried.

A motion to approve spending \$500 for the Rev 250 speaker on Historic Chocolate was made by Pat Baker and seconded by Ellen Clarkson. The motion passed unanimously.

**2025-2026 Calendar Review:** Much of the meeting was reviewing details of the upcoming **"Love Your Library" Open House on January 31, 2026 from 2-4 p.m.** Marsha provided the update and we reviewed staffing and

supplies. To date money was spent on face paint, signs and printing. Kathy Young is working on hospitality. Much of the food is donated, but there will be some expenses.

**Library Update:** There will be a puzzle team race on February 14th. Identical puzzles are provided and teams of 4 race to complete. Popular at other libraries.

There is a seed sorting party scheduled for February 19 from 2-4 p.m.

On February 21, 2026 the Friends will sponsor the Music for Many Occasions Ensemble. Their presentation last February was well attended and received much praise from attendees.

***The next meeting is Wednesday, February 18, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.***