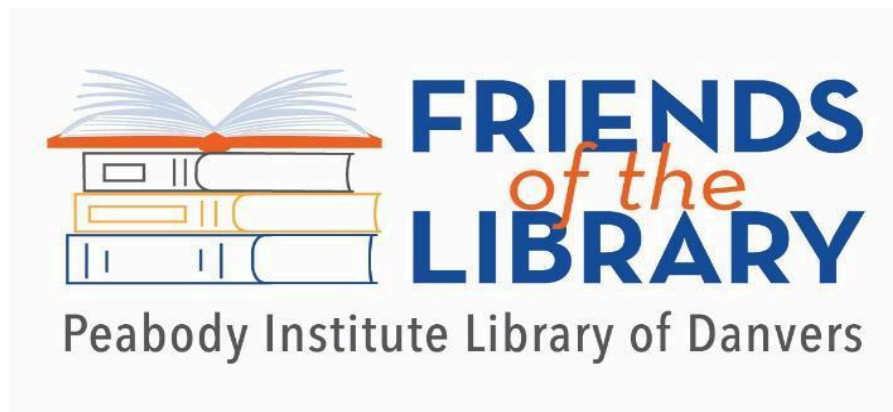




Minutes of September 16, 2026

Board Meeting

Attendees: Trudy Cullen, Pamela Santin, Lori Packert, Ellen Clarkson, Sharon Jaworski, Meredith Malloy, Meghan Marino, Mary Saratora, Marsha Coogan, Kathy Young, Patricia Maloney, Kathy Lopes, Linda Boylan

1. Welcome and Introduction of New Board Members: Ellen Clarkson welcomed the attendees to our Friends of the Library kick-off meeting for the 2026-2027 year. She also introduced the new Board members to attendees: Ellen Clarkson, President; Marsha Coogan, Vice-President, Sharon Jaworski, Recording Secretary, Trudy Cullen, Kathy Young and Deb Wilson, Board Directors. Pat Baker will be resigning as Treasurer as of September 16, 2026.

2. Approval of Minutes of May 13, 2026 Board Meeting: A motion to approve the Minutes of our May, 13, 2026 was made by Ellen Clarkson and seconded by Sharon Jaworski. The motion passed.

3. Vote for New Treasurer: A motion to elect Meghan Marino to be the new Treasurer of the Friends was made by Ellen Clarkson and seconded by Trudy Cullen. The motion passed.

4. Membership Report: Ellen Clarkson presented the latest Membership Report, noting that the Friends currently has 154 members, twenty-four of whom have joined since May 13, 2026. Membership notices for the calendar year 2027 will be sent out in November.

5. Museum Pass Program: A motion was made by Ellen and seconded by Linda Boylan to authorize funding for 10 museum passes we currently provide which come up for renewal by the end of 2026. If those passes increase in cost within a variance of \$50-\$100 of current fees they will be renewed. The motion passed.

Pam Santin, Museum Pass Chair, shared a report regarding museum pass usage for 2025 and thus far in 2026, prepared by Noelle Boc, Library Director. Pam recommended that in the future we examine the use of the passes we have and the expenditures connected to them to determine which passes we would continue to fund and which we would drop in order to support other museums of interest. In each case we would be determining if the cost per use was worthy of our further support.

Pam also recommended that the posting of museums online and on paper be revised and divided into General (including all museums) and Children's passes. The suggestion was also made to have a large poster with the children's museums posted near the entry to the Children's Room.

Treasurer Meghan Marino will be working with Pam on the Museum Pass Program.

Pam noted that she is featuring a Museum of the Month in the Danvers Senior Center Newsletter.

It was suggested that the DCR pass offering be clarified to note it is a parking pass to all state parks.

6. Finance Report and Budget: Meghan Marino, our new Treasurer, presented the Budget and Finance Reports for September. It was agreed that we will authorize renewal of our CD of \$5000 at the next meeting, pending information related to interest rates and length of term. This will be done within the 10 day grace period of our current CD.

A motion was made by Marsha Coogan and seconded by Kathy Young to purchase a dehumidifier for up to \$300 for the library. The motion passed.

7. 2025-2027 Calendar Review: Marsha Coogan presented the 2026 Calendar of Programs. Marsha is exploring a cultural event for October. A motion was made by Ellen Clarkson and seconded by Kathy Young to allocate \$400 for a late October program, plus \$75 for miscellaneous supplies. The motion carried.

Marsha has been working on booking Music for Many Occasions, a group with whom we have contracted in the past two years in the month of February. We also discussed the possibility of March for our Annual Open House. A number of attendees mentioned the issue of limited parking due to accumulated snow last January. No decision regarding dates for this event was made at this time.

8. Working Committee Overview & Assignments: Ellen noted that there were a number of committees that were in need of more volunteers. (See descriptions below.)

Ellen Clarkson would like another member to assist her with the Membership Committee.

Linda Boylan, Kathy Young, Kathy Lopes, Patricia Maloney volunteered to assist Marsha with the Program Committee. Lynette Gray is also on the committee. Marsha would like one more member to join this committee.

Kathy Young continues to chair the Hospitality Committee. If you no longer wish to be on this committee, please respond to her email to let her know.

If you are interested in being part of any committee, please contact Ellen or Marsha.

9. Library Updates: Noelle Boc, the Library Director was unable to attend this meeting. Ellen Clarkson relayed that there will be a small Latinx Heritage Month event by the Human Rights and

Inclusion Committee on October 14, 2026 at the library. More details will be available shortly on the library website.

Noelle had also mentioned the possibility of a one day Book Sale of fiction books being removed from the library book shelves. This would be a fundraiser for the Friends. More information was needed before deciding how to proceed.

10. **Other topics:** Trudy Cullen suggested we discuss our purpose or mission at our next meeting. Members agreed that that was a good idea and should be on the agenda.

There were also attendees who felt that the night time member meetings were more convenient than the daytime meetings. It was noted that we have been alternating between the times, except for January and February when both are in the morning.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 21, 2026 @ 10:30 a.m. in the Library Classroom

Membership Committee: Update & distribute annual membership renewal letters & acknowledgement letters, record payments, maintain membership lists, report on membership numbers at meetings

Program Committee: Work to research & recommend programs to be offered throughout the year, liaise with performers/presenters, arrange for payments, coordinate day-of arrangements with/at library

Hospitality Committee: Arrange for refreshments when needed at events, coordinate donations with volunteers

Publicity Committee: Create materials, disseminate through traditional and digital media, post fliers in town

Nominating Committee: Members will forward names for officers and directors annually and lead voting.

Officers of the Friends of the Peabody Institute Library

President	Ellen Clarkson
Vice-President	Marsha Coogan
Treasurer (outgoing)	Patricia Baker
Treasurer (newly elected)	Meghan Marino
Recording Secretary	Sharon Jaworski