



**Friends of the East Greenbush Community Library**  
10 Community Way  
East Greenbush, NY 12061  
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### **April 21, 2026 Meeting Minutes**

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

Julie Ann Price – President	Mary Kolb
Shay Harrison - Vice President	Linda Murphy
Diana Vance - Secretary	Kelly Walion
Liz Reyner – Treasurer	David Gonsalves
Diana Valenchis - Adv. & Awareness Co-Chair	Deb Tagliento
Betty Bellino - Adv. & Awareness Co-Chair	Terri Mayhew
Jenn Romer - Fundraising Co-Chair	Heidi Liscomb
Clinton Rickards - Fundraising Co-Chair	
MaryAnn Baird - Membership Co-Chair	
Jill Dugas Hughes - Library Director	

#### **EXCUSED ABSENCE:**

Sarah Holston - Membership Co-Chair

#### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

**MINUTES:** Minutes from the February 17th meeting were reviewed.

**MOTION:** Ms. Romer made a motion to accept the minutes. 2nd motion was made by Ms. Reyner. All in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- Ms. Reyner presented her report for the period of February 1 - March 31, 2026.

**MOTION:** Ms. Murphy made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for the period of February 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026, with an ending balance of \$60,030.50. 2nd motion was made by Ms. Tagliento. All in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.

## **LIBRARY REPORT:**

- Ms. Dugas Hughes thanked the Friends for the book sale and for the staff appreciation gifts.
- She reported that the Library is undergoing renovations
  - Traffic has lightened but the Library is still being used, so it was a good decision to stay open instead of shutting down for this phase of renovations for the roof leak.
  - The roof replacement project will be initiated shortly. The Library is in the process of finalizing a contract and it is anticipated that the renovation will be completed by summer.
  - There will also be patching done to the road this Spring. Currently, the Library is investigating funding for renovation of the road in conjunction with the other owners of the road.
  - Finally, the Library is working on funding for bathroom renovations.
- Ms. Dugas Hughes also provided a Grant summary report with the current status of prior grant requests and balances on hand, if any.

## **PRESIDENT'S & VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

### **Staff Appreciation**

- Ms. Price shared that staff enjoyed the staff appreciation gift, which was handed out last Monday. A thank-you card from the staff was passed around.

### **Night at the Library Insurance**

- Ms. Price noted that the Friends had previously approved alcohol at the event. However, there should be additional insurance coverage.
- The Friends have received a proposed insurance policy for \$195 which would cover 50 alcohol consumers.
- Discussion followed regarding whether this number should be increased and whether an increase would be allowed in the future if the policy was signed now.
- A motion was made for \$250 to cover a potential increase if the number of consumers was increased to 100
  - **MOTION:** Ms. Reyner- made a motion to approve \$250 for insurance coverage for Night at the Library. 2nd motion was made by Ms. Mayhew. All in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.
- Mr. Harrison reviewed the agenda for the upcoming Board Training on May 12th
  - Kate Manley and Victoria will provide the Board training on May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm
  - The training is anticipated to be 1.5 hours in length, with a set training agenda as well as an open session. Financial responsibilities will be reviewed as well as logistics for succession planning

- The cost is \$500 which has been budgeted.
- The trainers are familiar with Friends groups and have done work for the Library as well as other library groups previously.
- **MOTION:** Mr. Harrison- made a motion to approve \$100 for dinner for the training. 2nd motion was made by Mr. Rickards. All in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.

### **ADVOCACY & AWARENESS REPORT:**

- Ms. Bellino reported that there was a positive court ruling protecting funds for libraries
- Librarians Movie - Ms. Bellino encouraged members to attend the Librarians movie showing on Wednesday, April 22 at 6 PM. The Friends will have an information table set up. Ms. Dugas Hughes discussed that the movie deals with intellectual freedom and provides an in depth look at book banning, etc.

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

- Ms. Baird reported that we have 214 members as of today.
- Funds raised to date = \$9,598
- Average donation of approximately \$45, which is less than the average donation as of this time last year.
- Ms. Baird was unable to attend the membership recruiting meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup>. however, she has been advised that the following was discussed:
  - Membership pamphlets were to be included at the book sales – this did occur.
  - Membership tables should be held at additional and more appropriate events
  - At the meeting, people discussed why they chose to join the Friends. Suggestion to include a recurring segment to the newsletter or an article in Our Town.
  - Membership push could occur during summer reading
  - Targeted volunteer recruitment with advocacy
  - Volunteer recruitment for Night at the Library

### **FUNDRAISING/BOOK SALES:**

#### **Spring Book Sale**

- Ms. Romer reported the book sale raised approximately \$7,651.33 with the new shorter format. We did not have children's books or puzzles available so the numbers are not an accurate measure of success of the sale.
- We cut out 7 hours (1 day) of regular sale time and 2.5 hours of bag sale time.
- Feedback from patrons was positive overall. Almost all inventory was sold.
- Ms. Romer anticipates keeping the same format for the fall sale.
- The new lawn signs were used for the first time.
- The ongoing book sale will re-open next week

#### **Children's Book Sale**

- Ms. Romer went over the highlights of the upcoming children's book sale.
- The sale will be held Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup> from 10-1. This is the day after the last day of school, and the day before summer reading.

- Volunteers will be needed for moving boxes – a sign up genius will be circulated
- Considering charging per bag which would be a deviation from previous sales. Discussion was held.
  - Ms. Bellino advised that they did charge in the past for children’s books.
  - \$5 for small bag, \$10 for large bags, or \$1 for one book. We do not want cashiers to have to deal with change.
  - General decision that the Friends were in support of charging

**Summer Puzzle Sale**

- Ms. Romer discussed the idea of holding a summer puzzle sale. Discussion followed regarding hosting it on Father’s Day weekend. General consensus to hold the sale that that weekend.
- 60 boxes of puzzles have already been collected (approx. 6-8 puzzles per box)

**Night at the Library Fundraiser**

- Ms. Romer reported that we have \$1,500 in sponsorships so far.
- The next planning meeting is Wednesday, April 29th at 6 PM
- Volunteers are needed for planning.
- Entertainment will likely be a candlelight orchestra
- Food and sponsorship will also be discussed at the planning meeting, as well as eventual art outreach and local businesses for gift cards.

**Basket Raffles**

- March - sales: Thrillers – 66, Minecraft - 154
- April current baskets - Marvel and DC. So far, sales are low
- Baskets are up this year. No basket will be offered in June, we may switch to an every other month format to increase interest.

**UPCOMING DATES:**

- April 29 - NATL Planning Meeting
- May 12 - Board Training
- June 16 - Board Meeting
- June 20 - Puzzle Sale
- June 27 - Children’s Sale
- October 3 - Night at the Library

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** Ms. Reyner made a motion to adjourn at 6:56 PM. 2nd motion was made by Ms. Mayhew. All in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Vance