



January 2, 2025

Meeting was called to order by Marcia Rieder, President.

In attendance:

Officers: Marcia Rieder, Carol Bryner, Darlene Bates

BOD: Kathy Gephart, Cynthia Dare

Library Staff: Desmond Richardson

Members: Marcia Duncan, Linda Billups, Tess Valentine, Jeanne Morgan

Guest:

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from December 5, 2024, were read and approved. 1st. Kathy Gephart; 2nd. Darlene Bates

Installation of Officers and Board of Directors: Cynthia Dare, Board of Director member, installed Marcia Rieder, President, Carol Bryner, Secretary, and Darlene Bates, Treasurer. Ruthie Smith, Terri Cummings and Mitch Ashby were absent and will be installed at the February meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Darlene Bates

Receipts

	\$79.35
Donations for books	\$74.35
New Member	5.00

Expenditures

	\$174.59
Staff Appreciation and Winter Blowout	\$174.59

Treasurer's report approved by 1st. Cynthia Dare; 2nd, Jeannie Morgan

President's Report: Marcia Rieder:

OVUC: Marcia Rieder will attend the next OVUC board meeting on January 14, 2025.

KY State Friends of the Library: No new information from the Ky State Friends of the Library.

Library Updates: Desmond Richardson reported the December holiday events were a success. The New Year's Eve event had 150 families in attendance.

Maker Space is being used. The staff appreciation gifts from the Friends were given out on December 13, 2024, at the Staff Development Day meeting.

Committee Reports: 2024 Year-End Reports

- **Friends' Archives, Publicity and Public Relations – Cynthia Dare** began the year with a modest goal of getting Friends of the Library name and purpose out to the public. From Season Greetings by mail and email to the front page of The Local News regarding the "Holiday Giving Tree" (124 items-- hats and gloves-- were collected and given to the local schools). Success was possible because of the outstanding teamwork and leadership of the Friends officers, board members and members.

Word of mouth and participation in library events are go-to actions that benefit Friends.

Publicity and public relations centerpieces are the year-round inviting bookshelves in the hall entryway.

The work for signage, seasonal themes and attractive displays is phenomenal. Graphic work also is exceptional and timely. Kudos to our behind-the-scenes folk.

Friends also has focused on opportunities to showcase our grant funders. Through announcements and reviews, **library staff and Friends give credit to Ohio Valley United Charities and Ky State Friends of the Library. Due to the dedication and travel of the Ky State Friends of the Library to meet these groups, the Friends of the Henry County Public Library is known and respected here and beyond.**

The archives are being collected but have not been put together in a user-friendly way this past year. The committee plan is to focus on the scrapbook and possible online ways to gather and present captured information about our doings.

- (1) Solicit ideas, help and skills
- (2) Find library and other technical options
- (3) Manage more efficient tasks for future use.

- **Financial - Darlene Bates** advised that the checkbook and bank statement balanced. Receipts from the OVUC Grant have not been submitted to the Friends by the library for the year-end report. We ended the year within our budget. Darlene submitted a Treasurer's Report for year-end and for December.
- **Membership - Kathy Gephart** reported general membership was down a bit from previous years. Our goal is to improve our membership for 2025. Life memberships increased with a total of 11 new for 2024.
- **Events – Marcia Duncan** took over this committee in June of 2024. During her time as event coordinator, she and officers, board members, members and volunteers attended the Harvest Showcase, 4 Love Local Markets, and the Winter Blast at which 200 Christmas cups with a message from the Friends, mints and hot chocolate mix were given out. Besides preparing the Winter Blast cups, Marcia Duncan, Officers, Board members and members prepared a Christmas box for each of the library staff containing a "Friends" cookie, cocoa mix, candy cane and a pair of reading socks.

Old Business:

Year in Review – Marcia prepared an information sheet to be included in our membership packet regarding "Here's what we do." This is an overview of things we helped finance with grant money, items we purchased for the library from Friends' funds, and events we (Friends) participated in. Another successful year.

New Business: Friends Handbook 2025

President Marcia Rieder gave everyone in attendance a folder and reviewed the material containing:

- **New trifold membership application that is also at the front desk of the library and on Friends' bookshelves**
- **Friends' Information Guide for 2025 for all Officers and Board of Directors**
- **Committee Chairs and Members with their duties**
- **Important dates**
- **Proposed budget was reviewed--\$7,985.00, includes the \$5,000. grant from OVUC**
- **Updated funding proposal was reviewed**
- **Copy of the adopted 2011 and 2021 revised BY-LAWS was included in the packet**

Learning More About Friends will be discussed in February due to time limits.

Upcoming Events: No special events during January.

Announcements: A calendar of library activities may be picked up at the library front desk.

Next Meeting: February 6, 2025, 3 pm at the library.

Adjourned: Marcia called for the meeting to adjourn. 1st, Jeannie Morgan; 2nd, Marcia Duncan

Carol Bryner, Secretary