



February 6, 2025

Meeting was called to order by Marcia Rieder, President.

In attendance:

Officers: Marcia Rieder, Carol Bryner, Darlene Bates, Ruthie Smith

BOD: Kathy Gephart, Cynthia Dare, Mitch Ashby

Library Staff: Tony Jones

Members: Marcia Duncan, Tess Valentine, Jeanne Morgan

Guest:

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from January 2, 2025, meeting were read and approved. 1st Kathy Gephart; 2nd, Jeanne Morgan

Installation of Officers and Board of Directors: Carol Bryner, Secretary, installed Vice President Ruthie Smith and Board Member Mitch Ashby. Terri Cummings will be installed at an upcoming meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Darlene Bates

Receipts

\$41.64

Donations for books during January

41.64

Expenditures

\$99.00

Marcia Duncan for cookies for Library Christmas Blow Out

99.00

Treasurer's report approved by 1st, Ruthie Smith; 2nd, Kathy Gephart

President's Report: Marcia Rieder

OVUC: Marcia Rieder attended the OVUC board meeting on January 30, 2025. Grant money for 2025 has been mailed to award recipients. The Friends's has received the grant monies. OVUC spent \$207,000 in grant money funding. Special grants will not be offered this year. OVUC is presently researching a grant possibility to schools for a "Cyber Safety Program." The grant proposal for 2026 will

be posted on the OVUC website at the end of April and the proposal will need to be in to the OVUC office by May 30, 2025 or sooner due to the Memorial Day holiday.

The Breakfast of Champions will be held March 11, 2025. President Marcia Rieder will attend.

March 18, 2025, is the date for the OVUC annual meeting which will be a zoom meeting.

The Friends have been notified that everyone receiving grant money in 2024 from Ohio Valley United Charities will be audited.

KY State Friends of the Library: The Friends did not apply for the Random House grant. The KY State Friends of the Library will be offering a \$500. grant again this year.

Library Updates: Tony Jones reported the schedule is out for the Love Local Market. The dates are May – September on the second Friday of each month from 6-9 pm. February is Black History Month.

Committee Reports: 2024 Year-End Reports

- **Friends' Archives, Publicity and Public Relations – Cynthia Dare** will represent the Friends at the “Henry Unites “meeting every two months at the Hope Center. There were many Social Service Agencies in attendance. Cynthia had many conversations with agents welcoming her to the committee and praising the Friends for the Giving Tree at holiday time.
- **Financial - Darlene Bates** advised that the checkbook and bank statement balanced. All receipts from 2024 have been received and all bills paid.
- **Membership - Kathy Gephart** reported the membership committee will be mailing 2025 membership applications in early March.
- **Events – Marcia Duncan** shared her ideas for this year’s events to plan and attend--Love Local Markets, Back to School, Winter Blow Out as a few. She also suggested we have a meet and greet sometime for our members to come and meet the Officers and Board of Directors. Also, she suggests we host the Giving Tree again in 2025, with the approval of the Director as in 2024, since this was such a successful and well-received community outreach program. We further discussed how the Giving Tree helped the library. Some comments were--
 - **Friends understood that library staff would give anyone coming into the library and asking for a hat would be given a hat and that hats donated would be delivered to the Family ReSource Centers at both school districts in the county by the Friends. The Friends were to collect and maintain donations.**
 - **The newspaper published two articles on the Giving Tree and the Library.**
 - **The Giving Tree is a popular Friends’ project in many libraries all over the nation.**
 - **This brought members of the community into the library who may not have been in the library previously. One of the Friends’ purposes is to provide links to the community and this project reached people all over the county.**
 - **Goodwill and positive comments were received from all facets of Henry County.**

Old Business:

Learn More About Friends

Marcia Rieder reviewed “Understanding Between Friends and Libraries” from KY State Friends of the Library as follows since both the Friends and the Library have procedures and policies that they are expected to uphold.

- The Friends support the library and its policies.

- The Friends include a member from the library's administration as a non-voting presence at all Friends meetings and allow room on the agenda for library report.
- The Friends agree that any and all monies raised will be spent exclusively for library programs, services and other Library defined needs, unless agreed to by both the Friends and the Library. Parties agree that money received by the Friends should be used to support a Library branch and/or the Library system, and that those funds should supplement and not supplant funding.
- The Friends agree that the library administration has the final say in accepting or declining any and all gifts made to the library.
- The Friends agree to engage in advocacy efforts on behalf of the library under the guidance of the Library and the Library's Board of Trustees.
- The Friends agree that if they cease to actively fundraise and promote the library, they will disband allowing for a new Friends group to be established in the future.
- The Friends have policies and processes to follow.

Next month the Minutes will document the Library's responsibilities of "Understanding Between Friends and Libraries" as presented at the February meeting.

New Business: No new business

Upcoming Events: April 6 – 12 National Library Week

**Announcements: A calendar of library activities may be picked up at the library front desk.
Membership forms for 2025 are available at the Friends' book shelves and at the front desk.**

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

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

Carol Bryner, Secretary