

January 8th, 2025 - 6:30

Attendees: Elizabeth S, Bob B, Nina A, Maria P, Nancy V, Mary Fran D, Janet L, Matt P, Jerry C, Kathy P, Nancy G, Allison P, Carolyn D, Alicia O

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84369990069?pwd=btxwvHA2DRyYzCc6hY99NZwiNM0YIC.1>

President's remarks- Nancy V

Welcome

Nominating: Nancy G

Presentation of nomination of Matt Porter for Board member and Finance Chair.

- Seconded, all present voted in favor, confirmed.

Presentation of nomination for Janet Loengard for Board member

- Seconded, all present voted in favor, confirmed.

President's remarks-

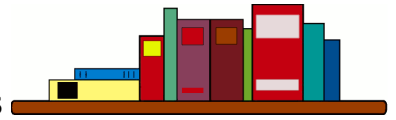
Meghan Scott is taking an LOA for the next few months. We look forward to her return after things settle down!

Friends of the Library key dates and milestones (end of agenda) please provide any additional tasks that should be on the document. This will help the leadership team next year.

Confirm 2025 calendar:

2025 calendar- July 2nd meeting – keep or move to July 9th

Any other date issues?



Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library

All meetings take place on Wednesdays

January 1st
February 5th
March 5th
April 2nd
May 7th
June 4th
July 2nd
August 6th
September 3rd
October 1st
November 5th
December 3rd

MINI GOLF MEETING date- confirmed 1/27 at 6:30pm.

President remarks continue

Board of Trustees-

Creative Library Concepts, painting and carpeting- \$790,000 The Board of Trustees will determine the amount after the end of year expenses are reviewed. Since the Board will need to approve the contracts at their 1/21/25 meeting, this is the last meeting before that date. The exact amount will be provided to the Friends via email once determined (after /17)

KEY VOTE- Motion to approve up to \$350,000 for library reimagination.

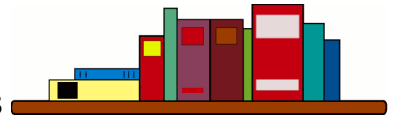
- Seconded, all present in favor, passed unanimously.

Vice President Remarks- Vacant- Need to fill this year, 2 co vice presidents?

Foundation meetings- if anyone is interested in attending a few meetings per year, please let Nancy and Cheryl know. Friend shares brief recap of meeting with Friends or sends email update.

Ended year strong with significant match donations. Have fundraising event this Sunday at noon at CycleBar (suggested donation \$50). Can sign up for class on Foundation website. All donations go to Foundation.

We can use items in Foundation's supply closet for mini golf.



Recording Secretary- Nina

November Minutes – approved pending one update from Foundation.

Correspondence – Nancy G

N/A

Treasurer's report- Bob Baker

EOY financial report shared during meeting

Campaign – exceeded fundraising numbers for the year.

Tax letters are on track. Thanks Maria!

Library Update- Fran

Busy with end of year, wrapping up financially as well as Mrs G's send off (thank you, that was lovely!)

Looking at year in review statistics -- the year brought a lot of changes (namely the massive bathroom renovations), but annual visitors were still up 7% from last year.

E-books and audiobooks are exploding in popularity (up 16%, with e-books being a big chunk of that) while also getting much more expensive for library to purchase.

Notable increase in attendance at sponsored events.

Capital CLC project is next big focus. May see some empty shelves in the interim as room is made for more community spaces. Expect closures for some renovations/painting to happen week after spring break. Aim to still have a functioning library while some bigger parts close for 1-2 weeks, and plan to communicate well in advance with community.

Major upcoming shift for library staff with transition to new catalog/database, will be knee deep in that in March. Patrons shouldn't experience any major changes on their end.

Ended up with enough left in budget to get the electronic resource Comics Plus (wonderful collection for great price). Has resources for children, teens, and adults.

Public Comments: Patrice Cummings, Foundation (via email)

Reports by committee chairs-

Finance- Bob/Matt

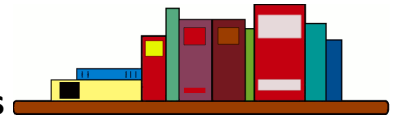
Will be working on transition

Nominations: Nancy G

Committee Openings: Status

2025 committee assignments

Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library Board of Directors



2025 Committee Assignments

Finance Includes tax letters	Fundraising includes campaign	Nominating	Programs Youth	Programs Adult	Public Relations Vacant 11/1	Volunteer
Bob Baker- (acting chair)	Carolyn Duff (Co-Chair)	Nancy Goguen (Co-Chair)	Meghan Scott Co Chair (LOA 1/25)	Jerry Clark Chair	Vacancy (Co Chair)	Victoria Oliveira Co Chair
Matthew Porter (1/2/25)	Jerry Clark (Co-Chair)	Carolyn Duff (Co-Chair)	Allison Porter Co Chair	Vacant - Co Chair	Vacancy (Co Chair)	Vacancy Co Chair
Maria Parrella – Tax letters as well as committee	Kathleen Doran	Kathleen Doran	Elizabeth Stryker	NEEDS MEMBERS	Nina Alstrom	Nina Alstrom
Nancy Goguen	Alicia Ochs		Kathy Peachey	Cheryl (until Feb)	Bob Baker	Kathy Peachey
	Patrick York			Kathy Peachey	Kim Donaghy	
					Elizabeth Stryker	
					Alicia Ochs	
					Victoria Oliveira	

1. Campaign Task Force: Meghan Scott, Allison Porter, Carolyn Duff, Nina Alstrom
2. New Homeowner letters: OPEN as of 2/2/25- Maria has volunteered
3. Tax Letters- Maria Parrella
4. Attend Foundation: OPEN

Issues

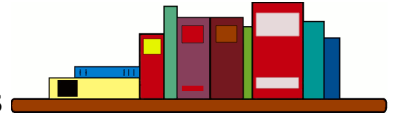
1. No vice presidents
2. PR co chairs
3. Volunteer recognition co-chair vacancy

- Rebalance committees for 2025
 - Add member to Adult Programming
 - Add member to Finance
- Finance chair/co-chair- Matt Porter
- VP or co VPs-
- Public Relations co-chairs-
- Volunteer to attend some of the Foundation meetings (second Tuesday of the month)

Membership drive- still applicable, especially for finance.

The Nominating Committee will be interviewing a prospective BOD member after the New Year. We also have another potential candidate from the Campaign who asked to be contacted after the New Year.

For people on the PR Committee, please consider being a co-chair. Also, we could use people on the



Adult Programs Committee (Janet interested). We also need a volunteer to attend the Foundation meetings

Programs- Youth- Allison

Thanks to those who bought cake mix and frosting - **please remember to bring to meeting**
Upcoming events for the youth committee include:

1/20 - MLK day of service. **Event is at 10:30am, volunteers to be there at 10am. Please let Allie know if you'd like to volunteer!**

1/22 - Elizabeth's book reading with cookie decorating **(4pm – need one more volunteer, let Allie know.)**

3/23 - Crafter Open House - **looking for Friends' suggestions of crafters/makers who can demo at event**

Other updates for mini-golf:

Baskets - We have a very good number of empty baskets from the Buy Nothing site - still accepting donations (bring to Jan meeting), but no need to harass your friends and family!

Donation deadline - we are asking businesses to provide basket donations by Jan 17th. Please get to Allie by Jan 24th at the latest

Kid craft - see sample of popsicle stick golf club craft that Allie will bring to meeting

Volunteer Recognition- Victoria

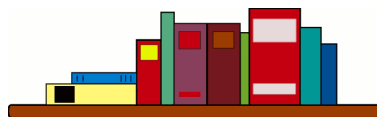
Programs Adult- Jerry

Working with the library on 4 concert dates (as well as the planned senior breakfast- June 6th)
Tentatively looking at the following Sundays: April 6, May 18, June 1 (or 15? father's day), October 5, November 16). Jerry and Kathy will lock in dates and share with group, and will be included in future meeting materials.

Please send Kathy and Jerry any ideas/links for new musicians!

Public Relations- Open

Met to plan PR for Mini Golf- see PR section of the mini golf planning document.



Fundraising- Carolyn/Jerry
Reforming efforts, new members

Mini Golf Planning- Nancy

Old Business/New Business- None.

Next Board of Directors: **MINI GOLF MEETING date- 1/21, 1/23, 1/28, 1/29?**

Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library Key Dates 2024

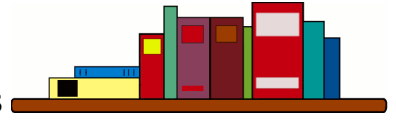
Meetings: To be confirmed at January meeting
Concerts: 2025 schedule to be determined
Annual Campaign: November 2024
National Friends of the Library Week: Oct. 19-25, 2025

2025 Friends of the Library Key Dates and Milestones

1. January
 - Adult Programming- concert dates set with library and concert musicians identified for spring
 - Chair & Nominating: Committees updated and balanced
 - Chair & Committee chairs- update Operating Manual
 - Chair- provide meeting dates to library if not already done so
 - Chair/All- Final Mini golf planning
 - Finance- Tax letters current?
 - PR Committee -Program approvals for sandwich boards- concerts
 - Youth Programs- Reach out to Becky on Maker's week
2. February
 - Mini golf- All
 - Youth Programs- Maker's week planning
3. March
 - Finance mid-year assessment of investments
 - Fundraising committee preliminary planning
 - Volunteer committee preliminary planning Volunteer Week events- Volunteer Recognition (assuming in May)
 - Youth Programs- Maker's week held

Full listing: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1y_av4FLbJOn64aS8QSRwpZ8N8GEIOEYL/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=107539267227726071293&rtpof=true&sd=true

Roster:



<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1xUo8lQg4VmP7lxNw29VijWWBvnoYNBmc/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=107539267227726071293&rtpof=true&sd=true>