

Friends of NDL Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, October 9, 2025

1. **Call to Order** by President Martha Nork at 5:34 pm.
2. **Attendance**
Present: Racha Alchommali, Linda Bastien, Charlene Cach, Kathy Fox, Cindy Frango, Claire Kreher, Chris Litka, Kimberly Meisel, Regina Mingela, Martha Nork, Laura Mancini (NDL Director), Linda Schwelnus
Absent: Denise Stacer
3. **Approval of Agenda** - Motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Claire and seconded by Chris Litka. (Cindy would not be speaking for Kathy Fox, Bookmarks report would be made by Cindy) Motion passed.
4. **Review and approval of Meeting Minutes** from September 11, 2025
Motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Racha and seconded by Cindy. Motion passed.
5. **Secretary's Report** - Kathy read a Thank You note from Grace Colter for the Friends celebration of her 95th birthday.
6. **President's Report** - Martha Nork
*Tote bags are in and are being given out to kids at the Reference Desk. Patrons, Lifetime, and Business members are listed on the back. These people have all been offered a bag.
*The Friends were at the Farmers Market on 9/25. It was not very successful membership-wise, but we gave away a lot of free books.
*The Gilmore Girls program was last night. Katie (NDL staff member) did an amazing job with decorations, food, and door prizes. The attendees had a lot of fun. However, no books were sold.
*Cider on Sunday is October 19th.
7. **Library Director's Report** - Laura Mancini
*The NDL had its Gilmore Girls fan party last night and the event was a huge success! Thank you for sponsoring this fun event!
*The first Community Forum on Space Planning will take place next week on Tuesday, October 14 th at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center. The Library Board will discuss the research they have conducted on space planning for the NDL to date and potential options. Contrary to what has been reported on social media, the Library Board has made no decisions whatsoever regarding its space. If Friends members are questioned by members of the public regarding space planning, we ask for your help in reinforcing this message. Interested members of the public should be encouraged to attend the Community Forums. The second forum will be on Monday, November 10 th at 7:00 p.m. at Township Hall.

*The NDL will hold its annual Volunteer Recognition event on Wednesday, November 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Carlo Meeting Room. Invitations will go out shortly.

*The annual Community Reads event will take place at the Novi Public Library on Monday, November 10 at 7:00 p.m. This year's author is Katie Williams and she will be discussing her book, My Murder: A Novel. A special thank you goes to the Friends of the NDL for their continued sponsorship of this event.

*All Friends volunteers working in the Cellar and the Sorting Room are reminded to sign in/out at the beginning/end of their shifts. The Library is tracking hours for rewards purposes and we want to make sure that everyone's time is reported.

*Baker and Taylor, one of the NDL main book vendors, announced it is going out of business. The Friends like to use their boxes for their sorting operations. The NDL's other two book vendors, Ingram and Amazon, use different packaging. The Friends should consider looking for alternative sources for their boxes.

*The Cellar is getting a special HEPA vacuum treatment by the Library's cleaning company this Sunday morning. All books need to be removed for five shelving columns across the back wall on Saturday and then put back on Sunday when the Library opens. I sent out an email to the Friends requesting volunteers and received no response.

8. **Treasurer's Report** - Linda Schwelus

For Sept 2025, Income included bank interest, dividends from two CDs, Memberships, Gift Books, and Used Book sales, for a total of \$1,393.82. Expenses included postage for Gift Books, Newsletter creation, misc supplies, and the purchase of Halloween Tote Bags for a total of \$1,734.09. Net income for the YTD is \$17,600.84.

Bank balances, including two CD's, totaled \$84,784 at the end of Sept.

A motion was made by Linda Bastien to approve the report, seconded by Racha and unanimously approved.

The Board voted to increase the Youth Summer Reading donation from the Friends by \$2,000, from the \$8,000 in the approved Budget, to \$10,000.

A motion was made by Kathy to approve the increase, seconded by Linda B. and unanimously approved.

9. **Committee Reports:**

A. Used Book Operations - Linda Bastien

Our shelves are now full in the Cellar.

There will not be a Holiday Book Sale.

We've received 20 member coupons in the Book Cellar over the last year.

We redeemed 73 Summer Reading log vouchers and 13 Winter Reading Log vouchers.

B. Gift Books - Claire Kreher

Since September 11th, we received 1 Memorial Gift

*16 books were added

- C. Volunteer Appreciation - Claire Kreher
October: Maureen Travalini (craft kits)
- D. Membership - Cindy Frango
There were 2 new members since the September meeting. We gained 1 Family member and 1 Individual member.
Our current membership is:
Patrons- **18** Businesses - **9** Family - **35** Individual - **70** Teens - **3**
Lifetime - **16** A total of **151 members**
(Gentherm is listed as a Lifetime Member)
- E. Newsletter & Public Relations - Chris Litka
We mailed out 149 Fall Newsletters. Our cost was \$314.57.
There are 34 folded and 35 flat newsletters remaining. Anyone can take one to mail or give it to a friend or business.
An email was sent out to members inviting them to attend Cider on Sunday.
- F. Bookmarks - Cindy Frango for Denise
The Bookmark winners were selected and sent to the printers. There were 54 entries. We chose one winner in four different age groups. The four winners will be invited to Cider on Sunday to receive their award.

10. **Guest Comments:** No guests

11. **Motion to Adjourn** 6:18 pm Motion passed.