

Friends of the Tewksbury Public Library

March 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM by Mary Ann Taylor via Zoom

Attendance

Mary Ann Taylor, Janis Giles, Diane Giarrusso, Nicole Goolishian, Lauren Chappel, Chris Castiglione, Doret Pool, Liz Robinson, Joanne Toppin

Acceptance of Minutes

Janis Giles moved to accept the February 2026 minutes. Lauren Chappel seconded the motion.

Treasurer's Report – Janis Giles

Janis Giles presented the Treasurer's report for finances through February 2026. Meeting. At the current time, there is \$10,978 in the Anniversary Account which can only be used for capital expenses. We have \$91,952 in all bank accounts and \$2,200 due from other libraries that utilize our presentations.

For January and February, we had an income of \$6,736, expenses of \$6,354 for a net income of \$382.

Doret Pool moved to accept the Treasurer's report and the motion was seconded by Liz Robinson

Director's Report – Dianne Giarrusso

- Canvases for the Tiny Art Show must be picked up soon. Completed canvases must be returned between 3/ 9 and 3/16. Submission forms must be submitted when the art is turned in. Voting for favorites will take place between 3/20 and 4/12.
- A fund raising idea was presented using a merchandizing site called Bonfire to sell items for the Friends group. Bonfire takes orders, fulfills them, and ships the orders for the Friends. The Board agreed that this would be a great fund raiser by selling T-shirts. Volunteers from the Friends will work with Nicole to develop the logo that will appear on the merchandise.

Trustee Report – Chris Castiglione

There is not any special report with business as usual for the Trustees. There were some policy reviews.

Old Business:

Winter Community Market

The Friends sold Blind Date with a Book products at the market Thursday, 2/12 from 4-7 PM. We did well since traffic was light. We had only 4 books left and our revenue was \$120.

February is Love Your Library

Emails and social media were used to promote "Showing Your Love" to our library by a donation. Lifetime members were sent emails and for those without emails, letters requesting their support were

sent. Some responses were received from the lifetime members. A "Show Your Love" page was present on our website for donations.

Book Donation 2/21

We had our first book donation Saturday 2/21. Due to the snow the night prior, donations weren't as plentiful as in the past. We did have three new volunteers that helped and hopefully will continue as volunteers for our upcoming events. Mary Ann was contacted by the director of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate regarding the book donation event. Janis and Mary Ann visited the facility and were able to acquire multiple books for the Honor Cart area. Also, there are over 20 books from the donation event for future Blind Date with a Book sales. Mary Ann will work on the book blurbs.

Friends Awareness Program

We are working to continue to create awareness on what the Friends do for the library. We work with Robert Hayes to find out what in-person events are scheduled for large turnouts. Our goal is to have a monthly presence at these events

Friends' Monthly Meeting Information

Past minutes, current meeting agenda and Director's Report can be found on the Friends' website under the tab "About Us". This is the link [About Us](#).

The current agenda and meeting minutes are available on the Friends' website. Zoom invites will be included on this page as well. Interested folks may also email the Friends for the Zoom invite.

Meeting reminders will be posted in the library and Friends emails.

Note: Attendance at meetings has been sparse. Therefore other than our Annual Meeting, in-person meetings will be discontinued until further notice.

New Business:

Volunteers

If you know of anyone who would like to be part of our volunteer team, please email me at the Friends friendstplibrary@gmail.com. Upcoming events would be Blind Date Sales, Annual Meeting setup/breakdown, Bake Sale (both baking & selling at event 5/16), and Summer Concert raffle sales.

Dine Out at Vic's Waffle House

A fan favorite, we will be having our annual March Dine Out @ Vic's Waffle House on Monday 3/30. The event is from 4-7 pm with a cash 50/50 raffle.

Dine Out for a Week 2026

Please e-mail the Friends with any local restaurants for dine-out week. We prefer ones in Tewksbury and local ownership.

2026 Book Donation Event Dates: All Saturdays @ 9:30 AM- 12:30 PM

May 2, September 19 & November 7

New Payment for Honor Books

There is now a sign with a QR code to accept online payments for Honor Cart Books. It has already been used

Possible Fund Raising Events

Bonfire (see discussion in Director's Report)

Lauren to check about Musical Bingo

Other ideas?

Schedule Date for Wine Tasting

OneStop Liquors has agreed to host another Wine Tasting for us on 4/28 from 5 to 7 PM. Cost will be \$15 if prepaid and \$20 at the door.

Proposed Fundraisers for 2026

Blind Date a Book Sales TBD

January

Membership Drive

February

Love Your Library Promotion – Request online donations

Blind Date with a Book

March

Dine Out (1) Vic's Waffle House

April

Wine Tasting @ Oakdale?

"Dine Out Free for a Week" (DOFW) Raffle?

May

Mac's Ice Cream?

Friends Bake Sale Date to coincide with Garden Club Event

June

Concert Raffle Sales

Dine Out (2)?

July

Concert Raffle Sales

August

Concert Raffle Sales

September

Dine Out (3)?

Meadowlands Ice Cream?

October

November

Dine Out (4)?

Countdown to Christmas?

December

Countdown to Christmas

Meeting Close

Doret Pool moved to close the meeting at 7:26 PM and Janis Giles seconded the motion.

2026 PROPOSED CALENDAR

<p><u>JANUARY</u></p> <p>1/7 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom Start of Membership Drive</p>	<p><u>FEBRUARY</u></p> <p>National Love Your Library Month: Love Your Library Fund Drive 2/4 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom Blind Date w/Book Sales: 2/12 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Winter Market – Tewksbury Senior Center 2/21 Book Donation Event</p>	<p><u>MARCH</u></p> <p>3/4 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom 3/30 Dine Out at Vic's Waffle House @ 4pm – 7p with 50/50 raffle</p>
<p><u>APRIL</u></p> <p>4/1 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom 4/25 Annual Board Meeting @ 10 am</p>	<p><u>MAY</u></p> <p>5/2 Book Donation Event 5/13 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom 5/16 Friends Bake Sale Date coincides with Garden Club Event: 9:30 – 12:30 pm</p>	<p><u>JUNE</u></p> <p>6/4 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom</p>
<p><u>JULY</u></p> <p>FOTPL Meeting Suspended Summer Concerts starting @ 6:30 pm</p>	<p><u>AUGUST</u></p> <p>FOTPL Meeting Suspended Summer Concerts starting @ 6:00 pm</p>	<p><u>SEPTEMBER</u></p> <p>9/2 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom 9/19 Book Donation Event</p>
<p><u>OCTOBER</u></p> <p>10/1 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom</p>	<p><u>NOVEMBER</u></p> <p>11/4 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom 11/7 Book Donation Event</p>	<p><u>DECEMBER</u></p> <p>12/2 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom</p>