

Friends fo the Tewksbury Public Library

September 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Mary Ann.

Attendance

Mary Ann Taylor, Lauren Chappell, Janis Giles, Doret Pool, Liz Robinson, James Magenheimer, Karen Silva, Andrew Nathan

Acceptance of: Minutes:

James moved to accept the minutes as presented and Janis seconded the motion.

Treasurers Report

Janis presented the financial information for 2026 through August. Net income for August was \$3,110 , which included monies donated, reimbursed from other libraries, raffle sales, dine free 7 sales and cash box receipts. Expenses were \$5,379.62 which included payments for children's and adult programs plus operating expenses.

..

Doret moved to accept the treasurer's report and Mary Ann seconded the motion.

Director's Report – Diane Giarrusso (per submitted report)

The library will welcome the new Assistant Director, Becky Rowlands, who will begin on September 14th. Becky will be attending the October Friends Meeting.

The teen and adult summer reading programs ended on August 7th and the children's program ended August 21st. There was a total of 1,221 registrations and a total of 20,314 days. The library had 196 programs with an attendance of 16,823 people.

The building had an attendance of 22, 060 in July and August, with 22,828 check-outs and a total of 30,949 check-outs and renewals.

The library will be closed on Monday, September 7 in recognition of Labor Day and Friday, September 11th for the 25th anniversary of 9/11. Weekend hours will resume on September 12.

Old Business:

Dine Out for a Week 2026

This has been a very successful fundraiser. The Friends wish to thank the following restaurants for their support.

Al Fresca's

T J Callahan's

Longs

Pera

Origin Thai Bistro

Cafe Sicilia Vietalian (new)
Luna Rossa (new)

2026 Book Donation Event Dates: All Saturdays @ 9:30 am– 12:30 pm

September 19 & November 7

Musical Video Bingo – 11/14

The web site for this event is active and a poster was placed in the library on 9/1. Tickets are \$25 each or \$220 if a table of 10 is purchased. ND Productions will host the event to be held at the Elks Tewksbury/Wilmington Lodge hall. We will offer a 50/50 raffle as well.

Dine Out – Wicked Cheesy

Was held June 25 and we received a \$100 check. Wicked Cheesy rounded up the number.

Summer Concerts

We had another successful summer concert raffle sales. Thanks to the following volunteers for their help. We can't do these concerts without support.

Barbara Velat
Chetan Madupu
Doret Pool
Jan Zink
Joanne Toppin
Lauren Chappell
Liz Robinson
Rose O'Neil

Friends Meetings

We suspended our monthly meetings for July & August and resumed on September 2.

New Business:

Blind Date with a Book Sale

The Friends will join the library staff at the Community Market on Thursday, Sept 10 to sell Blind Date with a Books. Thank you, Liz and Lauren, for all your wrapping efforts

Library Funding for 2027

It was agreed that the library funding for 2027 will be \$30,000 (see New Financial Policy below on distribution).

New Financial Policy

Starting with 2027, the Friends will present a check for the agreed donation to the library director in January. The library will be responsible for the payment of their programs and services as well as any reimbursements. Our

Treasurer will be responsible for the payment of the Friends operating expenses, banking information, revenue and tax information.

In addition, due to change of ownership at the current bank and the difficulties in assistance from the new bank, the decision was made to move our accounts to Tewksbury FCU. The transition will take place during the remainder of the year.

Possible Fund Raising Events

Other fund raising ideas?

Friends Awareness Program

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.

Janis moved to close the meeting at 7:45 PM and Doret seconded the motion.

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 & Blind Date Book Sale to coincide with Garden Club Event

June

Concert Raffle Sales

Dine Out (#2) – Wicked Cheesy

July

Concert Raffle Sales

August

Concert Raffle Sales

September

Blind Date w/Book @ Community Market

Dine Out (3)?

Meadowlands Ice Cream?

October

November

Musical Bingo

Dine Out (4)?

Countdown to Christmas?

December

Giving Tuesday Dec 1

Countdown to Christmas

2026 PROPOSED CALENDAR

<u>JANUARY</u> 1/7 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom Start of Membership Drive	<u>FEBRUARY</u> 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	<u>MARCH</u> 3/4 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom 3/30 Dine Out at Vic's Waffle House @ 4pm – 7p with 50/50 raffle
<u>APRIL</u> 4/1 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom 4/25 Annual Board Meeting @ 10 am 4/28 Wine Tasting @ One Stop Liquors/Oakdale	<u>MAY</u> 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 5/19 Mac's Ice Cream Dine Out	<u>JUNE</u> 6/4 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom 6/15 Summer Concert 6/22 Summer Concert TBD Dine Out at Wicked Cheesy 6/29 Summer Concert
<u>JULY</u> FOTPL Meeting Suspended Summer Concerts starting @ 6:30 pm	<u>AUGUST</u> FOTPL Meeting Suspended Summer Concerts starting @ 6:00 pm	<u>SEPTEMBER</u> 9/2 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom 9/10 Community Market (Blind Date w/Book sales) 9/19 Book Donation Event
<u>OCTOBER</u> 10/1 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom	<u>NOVEMBER</u> 11/4 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom 11/7 Book Donation Event 11/14 Musical Bingo Fundraiser @ Tewksbury/Wilmington Elks Lodge @ 7 pm	<u>DECEMBER</u> 12/1 Giving Tuesday 12/2 FOTPL Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom