

MINUTES
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY
June 10, 2025

I. Call to Order and President's Report

President Rose Mary Crook called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. at Towns County Public Library, Hiawassee, GA.

Board members present were: Marcia Aunspaugh, Kim Brown, Rose Carter, Suzanne Carter, Rose Mary Crook, Kathy Day, Kevin Kirby, Judith Lee, Darlene Pilcher, Jim Reynolds, and Delores Staton. Friends Dick Aunspaugh and Elaine Roberts were also present.

Board members not present: Bena Ball, Shawna Rose, and Mary Welken.

II. President's Report

President Rose Mary Crook welcomed everyone to the meeting.

III. Minutes

Minutes of the April 8, 2025 meeting were presented by Kathy Day. A motion was made by Suzanne Carter to accept the minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Jim Reynolds; motion carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Jim Reynolds presented the Treasurer's Report for the period of January 1, 2025 to May 31, 2025. Beginning balance was **\$26,203.71**. Total income YTD was **\$6,317.02**. Total expenses YTD were **\$7,037.26**. The bank balance as of May 31, 2025 is **\$25,583.47**, with encumbered funds of **\$6,122.26** and with unencumbered funds of **\$19,461.21**. The financial report was accepted.

Jim tendered his resignation as Treasurer of FOLTC, effective at the board meeting December 9, 2025.

Rose Carter presented information regarding a new benefit to our members. Members and bookstore patrons will be able to make payments using credit and debit cards for dues payments and bookstore purchases. Funds received are direct deposited into the FOLTC account at Peach State Credit Union. There was considerable discussion and interest in this new option.

V. Library Reports

Kevin Kirby, TCPL Branch Manager, reported the Summer Reading Program is in full swing and attendance at events so far has surpassed last year by two-fold. He

requested additional fund support from FOLTC to cover the cost of additional popsicles, bracelets, and charms.

A motion was made by Rose Carter to provide an additional \$250 for Summer Reading Program supplies to include popsicles, bracelets, and charms, as needed. The motion was seconded by Rose Mary Crook; motion carried.

A new branch manager has just been hired for Mountain Regional Library. Shawna Rose was unable to attend the meeting as she started work the day before the meeting.

V. Book Club

Kim Brown reported that the survey has been concluded with little new input from those who participated. For now, the book club will stay the same.. The June title is *The Storyteller of Casablanca* by Fiona Valpy; July title is *Prize Winner* by Hernan Diaz.

VI. Corresponding Secretary

Judith Lee reported thank you notes were sent to the following:

Donors: Dorothy Beck, Judith & Leon Lee, and
Andrea & Anthony Casso-Galiano.

Sponsor: Marie Hancock

Patrons: Grace Andrews

A change was made that mailed thank you notes would be sent for donations and memberships \$50 and up.

VII. Bookstore/Book Sales

Marcia Aunspaugh stated sales were very good at the book sales at the two libraries. There is a great need for book sorting in both the closet and the shed and she will send out a date for that. There is a surplus of cookbooks.

VIII. Bake Sales

No bake sales are currently scheduled.

IX. Membership

Rose Carter reported May 2025 Membership is as follows:

74 current members consisting of 2 business, 13 donor, 7 family, 1 honorary, 25 individual, 8 life, 15 patron, and 3 sponsor.

Membership fee changes were discussed. FOLTC has not raised dues in 20 years. The following was proposed:

1. Individual membership \$15
2. Family membership \$30
3. Donor category \$50
4. Patron Category \$100

5. Delete the Sponsor category
6. Delete the Business Member category

A motion was made by Suzanne Carter to adopt the above fee structure changes effective September 1, 2025. Motion was seconded by Marcia Aunspaugh; motion carried.

X. Newsletter

Darlene Pilcher stated articles for the Summer 2025 newsletter need to be submitted to Darlene by July 31st. She issued a plea for folks to write articles for the newsletter.

XI. Publicity

Suzanne Carter stated that she has been maintaining the Facebook page and providing current information for the website. She is going to change the name of the Fiber Arts Social Group to "FOLTC Creative Crafts Social Group" in hopes of attracting more participants.

XII. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

XIII. New Business

Scholarships for HS Students: Kathy Day reported that she will continue to make contact with someone at Towns County High School to get advice on how to go about setting up a scholarship. There was discussion regarding the amount we should consider for the scholarship. \$500, \$1000, and \$2000 figures were thrown out but no conclusion was reached.

Rose Mary Crook suggested that another possible sale idea would be a tent sale with possible 'fill a bag' for \$5.00 or something similar to reduce inventory.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m. by President Rose Mary Crook. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at Mountain Regional Library.

APPROVED August 12, 2025.