

MINUTES
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY
BOARD MEETING
April 14, 2026

I. Call to Order

President Rose Mary Crook called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. at Mountain Regional Library, Young Harris, GA.

Board members present were: Marcia Aunspaugh, Kim Brown, Rose Carter, Suzanne Carter, Rose Mary Crook, Meredith Legg-Grady (for Kevin Kirby), Christine Osborn, Elaine Roberts, and Mary Welken. Friend Dick Aunspaugh and guest Alyssa Cunningham were present.

Board members not present: Kathy Day, Megan Hume, Kevin Kirby, Judith Lee, Darlene Pilcher, Shawna Rose.

II. President's Report

President Crook welcomed everyone and introduced guest Alyssa Cunningham, Outreach Coordinator of North Georgia Technical College.

III. Minutes

The minutes of the February 10, 2026 board meeting were presented by Suzanne Carter.

MOTION: Marcia Aunspaugh moved that the minutes be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Mary Welken; carried unanimously.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Rose Carter presented the Treasurer's Report for the period of January 1, 2026 to April 14, 2026. Beginning balance on March 31, 2026 was **\$29,992.01**. Total income for April is **\$304.50**. Total expenses are **\$1,154.16**. The balance as of April 14, 2026 is **\$29,142.35**, with encumbered funds of **\$12,938.28**, and with unencumbered funds of **\$16,204.07**. The year-to-date balance of CDs is \$2,511.02. The financial report was accepted. Another \$2500 CD will be purchased in May from PSFCU.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mary Welken to donate \$500 in 2026 to Ferst Readers. The motion was seconded by Rose Mary Crook; carried unanimously.

V. Library Report

Meredith Legg-Grady reported for TCPL in Kevin's absence. Events for the Summer Reading program have been scheduled. The theme is "Unearth a Story," focusing on dinosaurs, archaeology, and paleontology. Popsicles will be needed

for the outdoor events on June 17th and June 23rd. Rose Carter will purchase 200 popsicles for the first event, then it will be determined how many more will be needed for the second event. Other programs at TCPL have included Easter events (i.e., egg drops, etc.), wildflowers by Bruce Roberts for adults, and rock painting for adults. Mary Welken volunteered to read stories to children on July 7th. Alyssa Cunningham volunteered to read stories to children at a date to be determined. No report was submitted by Shawna Rose.

VI. Book Bunch

Kim Brown reported on the status of Book Bunch. A couple of book titles have been switched on the calendar at the request of a member. In-person meetings resumed in April with a potential attendance of 10 members.

VII. Corresponding Secretary

Judith Lee was absent and reported via text that a thank you was sent to Jo Sineath as a donor.

VIII. Bookstore/Book Sales

Marcia Aunspaugh reported that the April book sale is going well, and shelves are being restocked periodically. She thanked Mary Welken and Lois Trask for keeping the TCPL bookstore organized and stocked.

IX. Bake and Pie Sales

There is no chairperson for this committee and no plans at present for future bake sales.

X. Membership

Christine Osborn reported that there are currently 79 active members. She recently sent out 15 renewal notices.

MOTION: Rose Carter moved that the Towns County Herald continue as an honorary member for the year; motion seconded by Marcia Aunspaugh; carried unanimously. This will be determined on a yearly basis.

XI. Newsletter

Christine Osborn reported in Darlene Pilcher's absence. Christine has created a newsletter template in Canva for future newsletters. She will assist Darlene in creating the May newsletter. Suzanne Carter and Mary Welken asked to be included in that training as they serve as editors/proofreaders for the newsletter. Articles need to be submitted to Darlene by May 5th.

XII. Scrapbook

Elaine Roberts has subscribed to the Towns County Herald so she can include published articles in the scrapbooks.

XIII. Publicity

Suzanne Carter reported on her publicity activities for the current book sale. She created and shared her "Publicity Check List for FOLTC Book Sales" that includes 12 responsibilities for publicizing book sales. She uses this check list for each sale and will pass it along to anyone who is involved in publicity.

XIV. New Business

- a. Library Program Ideas for Pen Pal Club – Suzanne presented this at the last meeting and no action was taken.
- b. National Library Week April 19th-25th. No action was necessary.
- c. National Library Workers Day, April 21st – Rose Mary Crook will deliver Ingles gift cards, purchased by FOLTC, on April 21st, to honor each library employee (\$50 each; 5 each @TCPL & MRL; 7 @MRLS) and will have a photo taken for publicity purposes.

XV. Old Business

The scholarship committee reported that six applications were received for our first scholarship award, and committee members were "blown away" by the quality of the applications. There were multiple outstanding applicants, and a discussion was held as to whether a second scholarship should be added. After a discussion by board members present, it was decided not to add another scholarship this year. After a winner is chosen by the committee, they will make notes about changes/suggestions that could be made for next year if the scholarship is continued.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m. by President Rose Mary Crook.

Respectfully submitted by Suzanne Carter (in absence of Kathy Day, Recording Secretary)

APPROVED June 9, 2026

2026 Meetings

June 9th, TCPL

August 11th, MRL

October 13th, TCPL

December 8th, MRL

