

# **Friends of Delaware Libraries Board Meeting**

January 12, 2026 -Approved 2/9/26

## **Meeting Overview**

Attendees: *Vivian Erickson, Tiffany Lydon, Marlene Biddinger, Mary Chute, Sue Gooden, Theo Loppatto*

The January 2026 Friends of Delaware Libraries Board meeting focused on:

- Organizational updates
- Creating Google Drive repository for documents
- Strategic plan
- Clarifying organizational identity and marketing efforts, including Facebook, a newsletter update & outreach to local “Friends of Library” groups and others
- Membership campaign
- Newsletter process

## **Summary**

### **Streamlining Meeting Minutes Process**

It was suggested that the AI-generated Zoom summary be distributed to all Board members for review. It was agreed to keep official records concise, including only general topics, motions, seconders, approvals, and assigned action items without detailed discussions or names.

Once all revisions are received, the December minutes will be edited for approval.

### **Financial Updates**

The Treasurer provided an updated bank amount and draft budget.

### **Membership Fees**

The group approved membership fee increases, setting individual memberships at \$20, family/friends group memberships at \$25, and business memberships at \$100. The “Friends group” membership fee will remain \$25 to avoid discouraging friends groups with limited funding.

There was a discussion of thank you letters to donors including agreement to include details about how funds were used in future appeals.

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### **Library Friends Collaboration**

The group discussed plans for meetings with county Friends groups focused on increasing cooperation and mentoring among library friends groups. The first such meeting will focus on Sussex County. The group decided to target April for this initial convening.

### **Quarterly Newsletter Volunteer Recruitment Plan**

The group discussed plans for quarterly newsletters/updates and agreed to decide on the newsletter's content structure before sending out any appeal for volunteers to assist with content creation and distribution.

### **Google Drive Setup and Access**

The group discussed setting up a Google Drive to share documents and organize files. A demonstration on how to access and use the shared drive was provided.

### **Library Organizations and related Communication Updates**

Among other topics, there was discussion regarding the submission of an article to the DLA bulletin to announce FoDL's reorganization and new leadership.

### **Marketing and Community Engagement Strategies**

The group discussed marketing and outreach strategies, including updating their website, maintaining an up to date Facebook presence, and joining relevant groups to enhance visibility.

### **Statewide Friends Events Coordination**

The group discussed the history of library focused events and the challenges of coordinating with local Friends groups.

### **Next steps**

- Watch for Google Drive invitation email and set up access if needed
- Send ideas about descriptions for committees to the group
- The group agreed to meet again by Zoom on February 9<sup>th</sup> and in March, and then in person in April