

## **Fund Development Committee Meeting May 8th, 2025**

The Fund Development Committee met via Zoom on Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00am. The meeting was officially called to order at 11:04am. Present were Tai Nixa Peterson (Committee Chair), Dan Groberg (Executive Director), Colleen Beamish (Development Manager), and Hunter Thiers. Sarah Swift and Craig Durham were absent.

The agenda was approved by consent. The March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Meeting Minutes were held for approval at the next FDC meeting, as it was determined that the secretary (Hunter Thiers) cannot approve or second their own meeting minutes.

Beamish provided the April Development Report. Hunger Mountain Co-op will sponsor Summer Reading. Business sponsorships will be included in the next fundraising plan. The library enjoyed another successful PoemCity, bringing in \$720 in funds from PoemCity Anthology purchases to date. PoemCity Anthology purchases made elsewhere, such as Bear Pond Books, will bring income to the library from royalties. The National Life Grant was approved for \$15K. Our original ask was \$20K.

A discussion ensued between all in attendance surrounding the appreciation event held on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Beamish stated that the event was great with the library bringing in over \$1,000 in Book Shop sales between May 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Nixa Peterson stated that the May 2<sup>nd</sup> appreciation event was well attended with many staying for the entire time including several of our large donors. Additionally, having exclusive access to the Book Shop seemed like a huge draw for those in attendance. Nixa Peterson also mentioned that it was great to see so many Board members in attendance and felt having FDC members posted at the welcome booth was a great way to connect with our donor and volunteer community. Groberg stated that he received a couple of comments about how nice it was to see good age diversity amongst Board members. As for the cost of the event, it was between \$500 to \$600, which is very doable for future appreciation events. Nixa Peterson added that for the next event, it might be nice to have someone stationed on drinks and food to ensure everything is refilled as needed.

The next large event at the library is the Strawberry Social which will be held on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Beamish will create a sign-up form for volunteers that will be sent to the Board. Nixa Peterson is planning to reach out to her connections to secure a performance piece. Kevin Layher, the new Youth Programs & Outreach Librarian, will be leading this effort on the library's end.

Beamish is currently drafting the FY2026 Fundraising Plan. If there are thoughts on specific goals, Board members are encouraged to reach out to

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her. The plan will be similar to the FY2025 plan and will likely include “friend-raisers”. A “friend-raiser” is an event held by any Board member amongst their community in order to increase community engagement with the library. There will be less emphasis on large donor appreciation events in favor of events like the one held on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Lastly, Beamish spoke about the potential for a planned giving program. The idea for this program came from a discussion with North Branch Nature Center which held one earlier this year. The goal of the program is to help participants understand how to incorporate planned giving into their long-term financial plans with advice from expert panelists. Refreshments would be provided as well. Thiers and Nixa Peterson agreed that this sounds like a great idea. Groberg mentioned it might be good to add this to the FY2026 Fundraising Plan.

The next meeting of the full Board will be May 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00pm in person. The next meeting of the FDC will be in June with an exact date to be determined. The meeting adjourned at 11:30am.