

FRIENDS OF THE PAMLICO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

January 18th, 2024 Minutes

Venue: Pamlico County Public Library

Bonnie called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00pm. An abbreviated meeting took place as the focus of this meeting is on the “Chat With the Author.”

Rich presented financial and logistical updates on the new Public Library and Community Center. He reported the bid opening process and the likelihood of ground-breaking in February. The FOL has approximately \$2.3M and although fundraising will continue for other features desired by the Friends and library staff, the Friends now have enough to move forward. Peg Vick was unable to attend but Izzy Keppner gave a brief report on fundraising activities noting that their focus is on closing the gap between available funds and the funds needed for various options.

Sidney reported on the ongoing programs at the library. She also thanked the Friends for our continued support at “filling the gaps” in terms of both human and financial resources required to operate the library. Sidney mentioned the very full agenda offered by the library to include basket weaving, chair yoga, book clubs, knitting, and many more activities. Check out the monthly events calendar, available at the library or at [Library Events](#).

Mary thanked everyone who helped with the plethora of events in 2023 and mentioned that we are starting off 2024 with less events but with a continued focus on fund-raising. Mary mentioned that on March 9th, we will kick off monthly book sales at the annex. We welcome volunteer help. Mary also mentioned that we have not forgotten about our volunteer recognition—we are aiming for April.

Local author and Oriental resident, Mary Scott, then presented a fascinating account of the events that led her to write *Dearest Jim*, her writing process, and lessons-learned. It was a fascinating presentation with lots of audience Q&A.

The meeting was adjourned at about 5:30pm.