

OCTOBER 15, 2024

## **OFFICERS**

Elizabeth Kassab, President Amity Kelley, Vice-President Joanne Blatte, Secretary Matthew Landau, Treasurer

## **BOARD MEMBERS**

Alice Cusner
Elizabeth Gonzalez James
Charlotte Hogan
Kate Mason
Catherine Ranahan
Kashmica Sarkar
Carolyn Weeks

## MISSION

The FOSPL is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our mission is to partner with the Sharon Public Library in serving informational, educational, cultural, and recreational needs of the community through fundraising, programming, advocacy, and volunteerism.

## CONTACT

Friends of the Sharon Public Library P.O. Box 235 Sharon, MA 02067 info@friendsofsharonpubliclibrary.org Dear Friends,

The Sharon Public Library has had several homes: a private residence, town hall, a former store, and —since 1914—its own dedicated library building at 11 North Main Street. Next year, the town will open a new library building for its collection, and the Friends are excited about the opportunities this will bring.

The Friends of the Library is also changing. Joanne Blatte, our long-time secretary, is stepping down. If you've been to one of our book sales, author talks, or annual meetings, you've probably met Joanne. She works tirelessly to keep us organized, on track, and moving forward. Catherine Ranahan, who joined our board two years ago, will become our new secretary, and we welcome her new ideas and expertise.

We are launching Sharon Reads Together, an effort to encourage Sharon residents to read the same book and build community. For our first program, David A. Kelly will speak at the Community Education Center at Sharon High School on November 12. David is the author of the Ballpark Mysteries series, the Football Mysteries series, and several other standalone books and series for children. In anticipation of David's talk, the Friends are also hosting a book cover illustration contest, an online trivia contest, and a craft evet at the library. We are also planning a similar program for adults in the spring.

Our annual used book sale raised more than \$10,000 for the library. This is our largest fundraiser and allows us to fund the museum pass program as well as programming for both children and adults and additional library needs. We will not be able to hold our usual book sale in spring 2025 because of the opening of the new library, but keep an eye out for one in fall 2025. In the meantime, our book bins at Heights Plaza are always open for donations.

We are grateful to all of our Friends for your continued support and to our sponsors, Dedham Savings and SCU Credit Union.

Sincerely, Elizabeth Kassab President, FOSPL