

Friends of Dandridge Memorial Library

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2026

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Location: Dandridge Memorial Library

Members Present

Bill Black, Susan Greene, Kathy Pless, Leigh Barnes, Connie Perrin, Ralph Alexander Jr., Paul Denton, Glenda Denton, Bethany Jones, Charles Boggs, and Elaine Boggs.

1. Call to Order

President Bill Black called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Kathy Pless read the minutes from the June meeting.

Corrections to the previous meeting minutes were discussed, including a correction regarding the purchase of fundraising items (such as T-shirts, tote bags, and similar merchandise) from Henry Humphrey of Dragonware.com. The matter was discussed by the Board; however, no formal motion was made and no vote was taken.

3. Financial Report

Work is continuing to establish the organization's financial accounts. No action was required.

The Friends of Dandridge information table and raffle at Glenmore Mansion generated approximately **\$200.00**.

4. Community Events Update

The Board discussed participation in upcoming community events, including the Jefferson County Fair and the Scots-Irish Festival.

After discussion, the Board agreed that staffing a booth at the Jefferson County Fair would require more time and resources than the organization could reasonably provide.

Instead, the Friends will hold a book sale on the front porch of Shepherd Inn during the Scots-Irish Festival on **Saturday, September 26**. Additional planning and discussion will take place as the event approaches.

5. Fundraising Activities

Leigh Barnes reported that she has been in contact with the owner, Rebeca Pittsley, of The Swann House restaurant on Cherokee Drive. The organization's request to host a Friends fundraising event has been added to the owner's list of community requests. Leigh will follow up after the restaurant opens. Opening is scheduled for Fall 2026.

Susie had previously presented plans for a Painting Class fundraiser. Bethany described the details. Kathy made a motion to approve the fundraiser. Leigh seconded the motion. The proposal was unanimously approved. The registration fee will be **\$45.00 per person**, with **\$15.00** from each registration benefiting the Friends of Dandridge

Memorial Library. Bethany offered the library as the event location on **Tuesday, August 25, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.** She will also publicize the event. Susie will finalize arrangements with the instructor.

The Board revisited the idea of custom engraved sidewalk bricks as an ongoing PayPal fundraising project. Bethany reported that the architect has not shown significant interest at this time; however, she will continue discussions and emphasize that numerous brick color options are available that could complement the current design plans.

Ralph Alexander Jr. introduced the Board to an online fundraising platform called **Bonfire** (bonfire.com), which allows organizations to sell logo apparel and other merchandise without upfront costs or maintaining inventory. Orders are placed directly through an online store. Ralph suggested purchasing four or five sample shirts to display at events.

Kathy Pless reported speaking with Jim Everett during the library groundbreaking ceremony regarding the Lions Club's annual donation drive at the downtown four-way stop. Jim advised that approval from the Town of Dandridge would be required. Bill Black will contact Mike Chambers to determine whether this would be a viable fundraising opportunity for the Friends.

Shepherd's Inn will host the second Friends of Dandridge Memorial Library dinner fundraiser on Saturday, September 12. The minutes reflect a ticket price of **\$500.00** per person with attendance limited to 25 guests.

Paul Denton reported that he had approached the Farmers Market about the Friends of Dandridge Memorial Library having a booth there on Saturdays. He was told this would most likely not be an option as the purpose of the market is to sell local produce.

6. New Business

Kathy Pless presented a sample logo design for the Friends of Dandridge Memorial Library. The design received favorable comments from the majority of those present.

Board members emphasized the importance of selecting a logo soon, as the Scots-Irish Festival is approaching. Charles Boggs suggested incorporating a background image of historic Dandridge similar to the view from the post office. Another suggestion included featuring children inside a library as inspiration for the design.

Kathy will prepare several additional logo concepts for the Board to review and vote on at the August meeting.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at **4:45 p.m.**

The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.** at the Dandridge library.