



FOML Officers as of January 2021

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Jill Marie Mason
Albion College

Vice President
Roger Mendel
Library Consultant

Secretary
Patricia Orr
Livonia Public Library

Treasurer
Charles Hanson
ALA/United for Libraries Rep.

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friendsofmichiganlibraries@gmail.com



Connect with FOML online! Be sure to like and follow Friends of Michigan Libraries, FOML, on Facebook.

You can get the latest news about other Library Friend groups around the state and helpful reminders of resources useful for your own group.

www.facebook.com/FOMLLibraries



Connect with Friends - Featuring a presentation by Attorney Anne Seurnyck

Hello FOML Family,

On Thursday, February, 25th FOML held the latest installment of our Connect with Friends virtual event series. We began with a presentation from attorney [Anne Seurnyck](#) (pictured) of Foster Swift Collins & Smith PC. Anne has extensive expertise in library law. Many FOML friends from around the state joined together to learn valuable tips from Anne. She discussed the importance of having a memorandum of understanding with your library. Perhaps you should consider drafting one. She provided expert insight on this and many other issues in her 30 minute presentation which was followed by a Q&A session. We later shared ideas, questions, and concerns in a lively, open discussion. We held two sessions (morning and evening) that were equally attended. Response to the event has been 100% positive and we hope to hold additional virtual discussions in the future. We look forward to seeing you then! These virtual events are an easy way to Connect with Friends. Please enjoy this month's Focus on Friends bulletin, which features information from and inspired by the latest Connect with Friends discussions.

Thanks for being a friend,
Jill Marie Mason
FOML President



What is a memorandum of understanding?

A memorandum of understanding, or MOU, is an agreement between a library and a friends group that clearly outlines the operating relationship. It may identify common goals, which entity donated books and items or particular spaces belong to, which entity money from book sales and other fundraisers belongs to, etc. [Here is a link to a sample MOU.](#)

How can we have a physical book sale if our library is still closed?

During the virtual discussions, friends shared some innovative ideas:

- One group held a sale in the park behind their library
- Another held a sale at a member's farm
- Farmer's market Trunk sale in a mall parking lot with genres separated by trunk

Where can we sell all of these books? (repeat from issue 3)

During the virtual discussion, we invited friends to share the online platform(s) they use for selling books. Here is what we came up with (with the addition of a few more).

[Amazon](#)

[Better World Books](#)

[Ebay](#)

[Goodwill Books](#)

[SellBackYourBook](#)

[Shopify*](#)

[Sustainable Shelves Program \(Baker and Taylor\)](#)

[ThriftBooks](#)

[Ziffit](#)

new addition!!! **Helpful hint: Search 30+ buyback vendors at one time using [BookScouter](#).*

Is there an app we can use to scan books for selling online?

One of the friends in the morning session asked this question. It makes it a lot easier to look up books if you don't have to type in the ISBN. Here are links to some of the apps available from the online platforms listed above:

[BookScouter \(Android\)](#)

[BookScouter \(Apple\)](#)

[SellBackYourBook \(Android\)](#)

[SellBackYourBook \(Apple\)](#)

[ThriftBooks \(Android\)](#)

[ThriftBooks \(Apple\)](#)

[Ziffit \(Android\)](#)

[Ziffit \(Apple\)](#)



Featured Friends - In Their Words

We the Friends of White Lake Township Library support all programs offered, not just monetarily but physically also! We continue to sell through this pandemic with Amazon, Ebay and ongoing sales inside the library. We have added a book cart that offers specials on seasonal books, games, puzzles and videos. We participated in the Snowman building contest and eagerly await the announcement of winners to include us!



The heading on the sign with Gwen and Carol says "What Are You Doing Tonight". They need to refill this cart daily!





**Join Us for the
Annual Membership Meeting on
Thursday, April 8th at 10am**

This year's annual membership meeting will be held virtually on Thursday, April 8th at 10am. To register, visit fomlevents.org/events/foml-annual-membership-meeting-2021/

The agenda is as follows:

Call to Order - Jill Mason, FOML President

Roll Call of Members Present

Motion to Approve Changes in FOML Bylaws

Motion to Approve Roster of FOML Board Officers & Board Members 2021

Introduction of Guest Speaker - Pat Orr, FOML President 2021

Presentation by Beth Nawalinski, Executive Director, United for Libraries

Questions for the Speaker

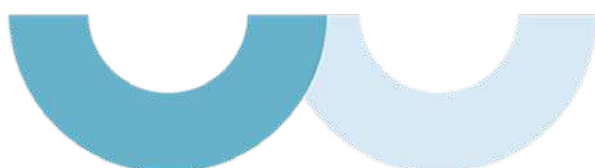
Information About FOML Services

Focus on Friends

FOML Awards - Rebecca Higginson, Chair, Awards Committee

Open Mic: Do you have a Friends project you wish to share with others?

Motion to Adjourn



**Don't Forget to Renew
Your Membership**

Click here to renew if you haven't already done so. Your membership is greatly appreciated!



**There's Still Time to Apply for the
2020 FOML Merit Award!**

The deadline is March 31st. This special \$400 FOML Merit Award for 2020 will be based on a Michigan library Friends group's project that was completed successfully in 2020 to support the library during a time when the library was closed and carrying out its services under the restrictions imposed by COVID. *Click here for more details.*

Thank You!

Thanks for reading this issue of Focus on Friends and thanks for being a FOML member. We appreciate you and hope to provide you with helpful services and events. **If you were unable to attend Connect with Friends, we plan to continue the series with another virtual event on April 25th.** Please take a minute to ***complete this brief survey*** to let us know if you would be interested in attending such events and any topics of interest to you.