

# Friends of the Cambridge Library start planning for 2016

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The Friends of the Cambridge Community Library held their annual membership meeting on Thursday, Jan. 21 in the Amundson Center Community Room.

Nearly 50 people attended the meeting and pot luck dinner.

The Friends elective board president Sharon Erb addressed the group and shared information on the Friends fund raising efforts and programs currently in place.

Erb stated that the organization raised nearly \$26,000 net in 2015 from the plant sale, book sale and craft fair annual fundraisers, Piggly Wiggly receipts, donations, memorial gifts, and memberships.

With the new library building completed, the Friends are looking for new

ways to refocus their efforts.

A "wish list" from the library for items still needed in the new facility was passed around with suggestions, ranging from books to ladders and office equipment.

It was also pointed out that "foresight" for future building funds may be important to consider as well as current material needs.

Each of the board members who spoke stressed the importance and value of both membership and volunteers for the organization, particularly during fundraising events.

The Friends have an upcoming chocolate event in February to show their appreciation to all those who give their time.

"Even half an hour of help at the craft fair is appreciated," said Jerol Reisch, Vice President of Programming and main organizer for the annual November craft fair.

The three main fundraising events bring in the majority of funds and can always use helping hands, regardless of experience or skill and the Friends of Cambridge Community Library welcome all who are willing to pitch in.

The 2016 fundraising schedule begins with the Plant Sale May 21, followed by the Book Sale during Maxwell Street Day Aug. 5-6. Both of these events take place in the Amundson Center Community Room adjacent to the new library.

The Art & Craft Fair is the final main fundraising event, scheduled for Nov. 4 at Cambridge High School.

After the official business concluded, children and families from the evening library program joined the group for dessert and the musical enter-

tainment program.

Carly Miklik, accompanied by Patricia Cook, sang several Broadway tunes and then led the group in a sing-a-long of several popular Broadway musical songs to finish off the evening.

The Friends of the Cam-

bridge Library have a new website and encourage those looking for information on their organization, volunteering, and sponsored programs to visit frequently to find the most updated information on how to get involved, [www.cambridgelibraryfriends.org](http://www.cambridgelibraryfriends.org).



Shown above is the Friends of the Cambridge Library Board. Back row from the left are Joan Behm, Louise Dalby, Loretta Byrne, Sharon Erb and Sharon Jacobson. Front row from the left are Nancy Lust and Kathy Grunwald.