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Summer 2020: Book Bins, \$20 for 2020, and a Special Presentation on Suffragist Alice Paul

Dear Members,

We hope you, your family, and your friends are staying well and safe—and maybe even enjoying a little bit of what is left of the summer of the 2020 pandemic.

Like so many organizations, this year has been challenging for The Friends! Our role as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit is to raise awareness and funds to support programming, museum passes, and materials at the library.

Unfortunately, in 2020 we have had to cancel our two major fundraisers: our annual Used Book Sale and our traditional membership drive. These two activities raise close to \$10,000 in much-needed funds for the library. During this pandemic, our resourceful library staff is continuing to offer programs virtually, which still requires funding.

Membership Renewal: \$20 for 2020

We understand that these are challenging times for everyone. If you are able to [renew your membership](#)—and perhaps [give an extra \\$20 for 2020](#)—we will use your donation to fund programs through the library, purchase supplies, and provide museum passes.

You can also support The Friends through Amazon Smile when you make Amazon purchases. Go to smile.amazon.com and select The Friends of the Sharon Public Library as the recipient.

Ready to Donate Your Books?



As an interim means to raise funds until we can safely have our Used Book Sale, we will be collecting and selling books online with the help of [The Bay State Book Company](#) of Norwood. You can donate your books at the Friends Book Bins near KinderCare and Shaw's on South Main Street starting August 26, 2020.

This is how it works:

- You donate your books in The Friends' book collection bins located at the Sharon Marketplace at 700 South Main Street, on the KinderCare side of the parking lot. [Click here for guideline on donating books.](#)
- The Bay State Book Company will collect and sort the books at their warehouse.
- The most salable books will be sold on Amazon. The Friends will receive 30% of the proceeds along with a breakdown of the sales from The Bay State Book Company.
- Books not sold on Amazon will be donated to organizations like Cradles to Crayons, Communities in Schools, Book Pals, and Books for Soldiers, among others.

Save the Date for Two Events on October 8, 2020

- At 6:45 p.m., we invite you to join The Friends on Zoom for our **FOSPL Annual Meeting**. We will briefly review the past year's activities and finances, and the officers for the upcoming year.
- At 7 p.m., we are delighted that **Tina Cassidy**, author of *Mr. President, How Long Must We Wait?*, will join us for a Zoom presentation on her book. Tina was a contributor to [the recent PBS American Experience documentary, "The Vote,"](#) which highlights the fight by American Women for the right to vote. Veronica Wiseman will moderate a Q and A session after the presentation. This free event is hosted by The Friends and The League of Women Voters of Sharon and Stoughton. [Please register for the event here](#); space is limited to 100 registrants. The presentation will be recorded and rebroadcast on Sharon TV Channel 8.

What is Happening with the Library Project?

Thank you for your support of the new library project. On July 8, the Zoning Board of Appeals did not approve zoning relief for the new library building as designed. The next step is to wait for the ZBA's written decision, which will include explanations for the denials of 4 out of 5 appeal items or for the ZBA to reopen the hearing. The Library Trustees have had no communication from the ZBA or their lawyer on when either of these events may take place. Due to Covid-19, decisions that normally have to be rendered within 14 or 90 days now have until 45 days after the state of emergency is lifted. The Trustees will share information as they receive it.

We appreciate your ongoing support of The Friends. Thank you and stay well!

