OPENING DOORS COMMITTEE MEETING
LYME PUBLIC LIBRARY
January 29th, 2026
2:00 PM

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

Laura Mooney, LPL Board Chair
Michael James, LPL Board Secretary
Kathy Tisdale, Lyme Social Services
Mary Seidner, LLYSB
Karen Conniff, Lymewood Senior Housing
Melissa Fournier, LPL Director
Jeremy Crisp, Lymes Senior Center
Lori Caine, LPL Board
Kristina White, Lyme Land Trust
Lilian King, LPL Board
Karen Geisier, OL Lions Club

Laura Mooney welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview since we last met in October. She asked the participants to describe what their organizations have been doing especially during the holidays and the winter. Laura's question led the group into an engaging conversation. The following are some of the ideas shared:

Mary Seidner described the LYSB Thanksgiving Food Drive and Holiday Family sharing with 35 families participating and includes all ages, including the Cub Scouts, Boy and Girl Scouts. Whatever was left over from the food drive is donated to the Soup Kitchen. Kathy Tisdale coordinates the town of Lyme with the LYSB. Kathy explained how Big Y food cards are distributed and given the harsh winter, the necessity for donations for heating oil.

Laura M. described the Library's Opening Doors outreach flyer and the need for funds as the Library has no budget. Karen G. told the group that the Lions Club would be donating $400 to the Friends of the LPL to be used for advertising the Opening Doors project.

Melissa F. described the new programming at the Library, including "What's on Your Mind," a discussion group of seniors which hopefully can be linked to the "Wise Owls," which is a young children's read aloud program. Melissa added that so far there are no senior volunteers. Jeremy C. suggested that instead of a large group read aloud, the Library could recruit seniors to read to small groups. Other suggestions included having the Wise Owls program branch out to the local Public Halls.
Kristina W. advocated for a town-wide door-knocking effort with participants canvassing the neighborhoods with information about Opening Doors and the various outreach efforts.

Mary S. and Kristina W. suggested the Opening Doors brochure be revised to include additional organizations and resources with links to various websites.
The meeting adjourned at 3:30.
The next meeting will be February 26th at 2:00pm.