

Friends of the Russell Library Minutes
Executive Committee Meeting
February 6, 2025
Russell Library Annex Building

Present: Sandy Becker, Barrie Robbins-Pianka, Laura Taft, Makiko Shinjo, Cathy Boone, Tisha Ferguson,
and Jeff Dickey-Chasins, guest
Recorder: Tisha Ferguson

Call to Order 10:05 AM

Approval of agenda with additions

Approval of January 2025 minutes

President's Report

- Brew Bakers book selection guidelines. Books should be chosen from main racks, not Red Dot shelf. Price to be raised to match Book Nook and Book Sales, most \$2. Brew Bakers staff should be informed. Improved signage is needed, with Friends membership brochures (Tisha). Sandy to discuss with Joan.
- A request for book donations to Pondview Apartments (Senior & Disabled) was received via email. Laura has been in touch with the Resident Director, Karen, to find out what they are could use. An initial donation of about 40 books has been packed, delivery TBD.
- Friends of CT Libraries email came in, requesting newsletter submissions, and extended an invitation to roundtable discussions.
- Annual Meeting 2025 will include officer elections (odd years). Officers who agree to continue in their positions will be listed on the ballot, and nominations will be accepted by email and from the floor at the meeting. The nominations email to members should include descriptions of each role and responsibilities. A first email with a notice of the date and a call for nominations will be sent to members about two months prior to the meeting, with a deadline for nominations of 30 days prior. The second call to meeting, with agenda and ballot, will be emailed 30 days before the meeting. Print copies will be available at the meeting, as well.
- The Finance Committee is also looking for new members. An invitation to apply will be sent to members with the annual meeting information.

Treasurer's Report

- Book Nook income has been steady but lower. Memberships have continued to come in, several with additional donations.
- The two CDs will mature shortly, and will be combined into a single CD, with maturity date prior to fiscal year end.
- Discussion of membership dues options, including tiers and 'pay what you will', to encourage increased donation levels. We will maintain our current membership model, for now.

Discussion and new business

- Discussion about sales sites for foreign language books.
- Discussion of how to increase publicity and membership. Outreach ideas include: having a member of the Friends at library events that the Friends help to support, with membership brochures and signage at those events. (Sandy has volunteered). Contact library event staff for calendar and planning.
- Further discussion of volunteer access to the lower level at book sale setup. It is agreed that those volunteers do not need to have the access code.

Meeting adjourned at 11:06 AM

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 6, 2025, 10:00 AM, Russell Library Annex Building

Respectfully submitted,
Tisha Ferguson