

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

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

Call to Order 10:00 AM

Approval of agenda with additions

Approval of March 2025 minutes

President's Report

- Jeff Dickey-Chasins, who has joined the Executive Committee as Outreach and Engagement Chair.
- Annual Meeting planning: possible dates are June 10th and June 17th. This year is an election year. Two months prior to the meeting, an announcement and call for nominations will go out to members. One month prior to the meeting, a second invitation will be sent, with list of continuing officers, and agenda for the meeting. Discussion of having a featured speaker, possibly from CT Humanities Council.
- Library birthday party on Saturday, April 5th, from 10:30-12:30 in the lobby. Friends should be present, with new brochures.
- Friends of Libraries Day is Saturday April 26th; we will have a table in the lobby. Jeff will organize, and Cathy will send out a schedule for volunteers via Signup Genius. Tisha will print more brochures, and large table signs will be created (tbd); discussion about whether we have a banner (and that we ought to have one.)
- June Book Sale date moved to June 13-14, to avoid conflict with other events (Pride event)

Treasurer's Report

- Excellent results from March Book Sale, best 2-day sale on record. Discussion of possible reasons for the increase, including book price increase, additional \$3 gift books, library newsletter publicity
- Discussion of membership fees, and whether we should try a 'pay what you wish' model, rather than a fixed annual amount. To be discussed at the annual meeting.

Discussion and new business

- Annual meeting ideas. Can we get a speaker or other focus for the meeting...probably too late. At the meeting, we should ask what library programs the Friends would like to see, and have a comments box.

Meeting adjourned at 10:48 AM

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 1, 2025, 10:00 AM, Russell Library Annex Building

Respectfully submitted,
Tisha Ferguson