

Friends of the Russell Library Minutes
Executive Committee Meeting
October 2, 2025
Russell Library Annex Building

Present: Sandy Becker, Barrie Robbins-Pianka, Makiko Shinjo, Cathy Boone, Jeff Dickey-Chasins,
Christina Trier, and Tisha Ferguson

Recorder: Tisha Ferguson

Call to Order 10:00 AM

Approval of agenda, with additions

Approval of September 2025 minutes, with changes

President's Report

- Week of October 20th is Friends of Library week, there will be refreshments for the sorters in the staff lounge on Tuesday, October 21.
- Sandy will ask Mary Datillo to continue featuring our bookstalls in the library newsletter, with the book sale date in the email subject line.
- Friends newsletter has 4 new signups. The next issue will be sent a week prior to the November book sale.
- The membership renewal mailing & emails to be coordinated with the newsletter and other members emails.
- Ramona has invited the Friends to have a table at any library event. Jeff proposes that we set up at least once a month.
- The library card crawl was very successful. At the Friends lobby table, 40+ brochures were distributed, a couple of new members signed up. Next time, have some kind of treat or goodie to hand out.
- Proposed book sale dates for 2026: March 27-28, June 12-13, September 11-12, December 4-5. All to be confirmed.

Treasurer's Report

- The September book sale was very successful, close to best results for a 2-day sale. Discussion about setting a goal for sale income, and about new ways to increase interest and income, including holding a raffle for a library t-shirt.
- Constant Contact has been prepaid for a year.
- CT Friends of Libraries membership renewal was approved.

Discussion and new business

- Discussion of book inventory, how to increase donations, and whether to keep books circulating for sale after they are 'double xx'd'. Cart of these books should be reviewed for re-shelving, rather than discarding.
- Book Nook organizing and presentation. More 'face-outs', special collection carts. We should compare our prices with that of other library friends groups.
- Increase of Book Nook prices, adding \$1.00 to hardcover and paperback adult and YA books, was approved. Also, increasing the price of big books, aka. coffee table books, to \$3.00. (Increased Book Nook prices will be lowered to match big book sale prices on sale days.)
- Updating the Friends web page to reword book donation language...Sandy will discuss with Mary D.

- Sandy suggested that the sorters and volunteers gather for a (monthly?) lunch, as used to happen.

Action items

- Send newsletter content by November 7th (to Tisha)
- Jeff and Mack to coordinate membership emails and renewal mailing.
- Library events calendar for Friends to have a table- Jeff will organize.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 2 2025, 10:00 AM, Russell Library Annex Building

Respectfully submitted,
Tisha Ferguson