

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

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

Recorder: Tisha Ferguson

Call to Order 10:00 AM

Approval of agenda, with additions

Approval of October 2025 minutes, with updates to 'big' book pricing

President's Report

- Outreach: The next lobby tabling event next event will be on December 13th. The table will have a tally sheet to collect numbers and information, and we will have some kind of give-away or treat.
- Sandy will ask Mary Datillo to continue headlining the upcoming book sale in the library's newsletter, and to feature the holiday book collection.
- R.J. Julia /Wesleyan Bookstore has now donated two batches of 'slightly damaged' books to the Friends. The sorters have identified many for shipping to resellers. This seems to be a very good partnership, and we will publicize the donations.
- The updated book sale dates for 2026 are: March 27-28, June 12-13, September 11-12, December 4-5. (Changes are still possible.)
- Christina Trier has accepted the nomination to be the next Vice President of the Friends Executive Committee, and this will be voted on at the 2026 Annual Meeting.

Treasurer's Report

- Book Nook sales have continued steadily, and book shipments have been very good, especially with the addition of the RJ Julia books.
- Signage for the BookNook in the lobby, and larger signs for the Book Sale days were discussed.

Discussion and new business

- New items for the agenda should include 1) the newsletter and 2) outreach activities.
- Sandy suggested that the Friends have a monthly lunch for the sorters and volunteers, location TBD. The proposed date is the third Tuesday of the month.
- The newsletter content is needed by the end of the week, so that the newsletter can go out prior to the book sale. The invitation to members to the Pre-sale will be in the newsletter.
- Upcoming Book Sale: volunteer sign-ups are doing well, and preparation for the setup is under control. There will be a holiday book cart, as well as more coffee table, gift, and collectible books.
- Christina will make her folded Christmas trees to sell at the Book Sale.

Membership Renewal Mailing

- The Committee stayed following the business meeting to fold, stuff and address the membership cover letters and envelopes. Many hands made quick work!

Action items

- Send newsletter content by November 7th (to Tisha)
- Library events calendar for Friends to have a table- Jeff will organize.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55AM

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 4, 2025, 10:00 AM, Russell Library Annex Building

Respectfully submitted,  
Tisha Ferguson