

Friends of the Russell Library Minutes
Executive Committee Meeting
February 5, 2026
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 January 2026 minutes.

President's Report

- The approved book sale dates for 2026 are: March 27-28, June 12-13, September 11-12.
- The Finance Committee has approved the library's wish list for this year, and has approved the increased donation from the Friends.
- The request was made to provide the library's annual wish list to all the Executive Committee members, with some context about how it is developed by the library staff.
- The Finance Committee will resume in-person meetings, schedule TBA.
- The 2026 November/December book sale dates are not decided, due to the conflict with the library's scheduled rehearsal and performance dates of the holiday play. Sandy will meet with Ramona to discuss, and determine if we can find alternate location or dates.

Outreach

- The monthly lobby tabling days have been successful. The February and March dates are scheduled, and April-June will be set up soon.
- One goal of the table events is to highlight the Book Nook, with free book coupons and signage.
- Volunteer opportunity emails sent to the Friends at large, to encourage members who are not active to get involved by doing a short stint at a table.

Newsletter

- The next issue will go out about two weeks prior to the March book sale.
- One feature will be an interview with a library staff member.
- The Book Sale notice will include featured or special collections.
- There will be a question or invitation to comment that readers can respond to.
- Content from the Executive Committee members is due by March 1st.

Treasurer's Report

- The membership renewals continue to come in, and we have 10 new members.
- The CDs have been renewed for 3 months, to allow for the year end library donation.

Discussion and new business

- Discussion of ways to increase sales, and how to advertise special collections.
- Discussion about classified sections and pricing in Booksalefinder.
- Discussion about looking into the Cheshire Friends bookstall discards. Do we need to bring in more books? How else might we do that?
- Initial planning for the Annual Meeting, and proposed date of 6/16th.

Action Items

- Tisha will work on the next newsletter.
- Volunteers will get in touch with the Cheshire Friends about looking at their sale discards.
- Jeff will organize the tabling volunteers and setup.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 5 2026, 10:00 AM, Russell Library Annex Building

Respectfully submitted,
Tisha Ferguson