

Friends of Cascade Park Library Meeting Minutes

October 23, 2025 - *FINAL*

1. Call to order: Meeting called to order at 6:02 p.m. by President Donna Aase. Those present were: Donna Aase, Jean Kent, Joan Lamy, Linda McHan, Julie Nakao, Rachael Ries (library staff), Stephanie Sanchez, and Melissa Webb.

2. Minutes - Jean Kent

A. The minutes of the September 18th meeting were approved as written.

3. Treasurer's report - Stephanie Sanchez

A. The sound mitigation invoice was paid (\$10,000). Rachael said the equipment does seem to lessen the power of high pitched screams a bit.

B. Book store continues to do well. Should we thank generous donors in the newsletter specifically or generally? Agreed: generally.

4. Book Store - Linda McHan

A. Linda reported 209 volunteer hours for September.

B. One repeat 'patron' might be stealing books, it's hard to tell for sure.

C. There have been a lot of volunteer absences so the subs have been very much appreciated. Subs need to communicate the times they're available.

D. Rachael reported that there is now a Walkie-Talkie available for security and communication. The first volunteer to open the store will retrieve it and the last to monitor the store will return it to a staff member. The potential ability to communicate works both ways - if there's an issue in the book store or if there is one in the library itself.

5. Branch Manager/Librarian's Report - Rachael Ries

A. 23,315 visitors, 16 curbside deliveries, 610 boxes incoming delivery.

B. Library Happenings: Financial Literacy for kids (slow start only 4 at the first one but 16 for the second); Have 19 of 25 spots registered for the craft fair;

Did a tour for UO architect students of library and of Firstenburg. That pointed out the need for security in the courtyard. Had an Intuitive Collage event which is also the current display in the entry way.

C. Displays/Art Gallery: Society of Washington Artists.

D. Coming up we have: Speed Puzzle event in January. Will use 500-piece puzzles? Not sure, but probably. Agreed puzzles should be similar in style and difficulty. Prize? Yes! A puzzle! Complete-puzzle donations are welcome; Money Maker's Financial Literacy Program for Kids fair will be in December. Ofrenda for Día de los Muertos in partnership with Latino Leadership Northwest - 10/25; Come Write In - 11/1, 2-3:30 pm; Macrame Gnomes - 11/14, 2-3:30pm; Poetry Workshop - 11/15, 11-12; also card-making class (could use volunteers).

E. Have been told to order new chairs and tables. Animated discussion about quality, storage, utility and practicality of design of tables. New chairs will be 4 pounds lighter than current chairs and can use same chair dolly. Old chairs still look great. Library's goal is equity amongst branches.

- F. Need greenery and volunteers for wreath-making class.
- G. Friends have helped with program support for: Teen Late Night Teen Council; Five Minute Teen Film Festival Trophies and theater rental; and Fairy Garden items.
- H. How is new website? Some good, some bad reviews. Agreed it's less intuitive to recommend a book be purchased. "Lists" which people created on the old website will migrate to the new one in about four weeks. It's complicated.
- I. Julie noticed that other Friends groups are noted for some activity or some event. What are we noted for? Rachael suggested the kickoff for summer reading or the Trashion Show. We should think about this.
- J. Teen film festival - well attended (92) and was really successful. It's on Youtube now. Eleven films made it into the festival. Teens did an amazing job.

6. Member at Large - Sandy Granich

- A. Auction yielded \$410.00. One basket (Martial Arts) did not get bids. Will be put in library for bids here.
- B. 500 attended the A & I dinner so the event was successful for the Foundation.

7. Communications Chair - Julie Nakao

- A. Our stock of pencils and bookmarks is depleted and low, respectively. Julie will check with Ruth about the pencils; stock will be replenished.
- B. The next Friends newsletter will be published in early November. It will feature a list, provided by Rachel, of annual programs that typically could use volunteer(s). The objective is to develop a pool of FoCPL members who would be interested in being contacted via email about volunteer opportunities.
- C. Regarding the new FVRL website, Julie described the improved page of information about the Friends groups and wondered if The Cascade Park Friends could be doing more. For instance, FoCPL could raise its profile by actively promoting an annual CPCL program or a national library campaign e.g., Friends of the Library Week, Love your Library Day, Library Card Sign-up Month. Would we want to have a table at the Tech Center's Farmers Market (June-Sept) which could be a place to promote the library and promote the Friends group?
- D. For the *Friends Connect* newsletter, Rachael suggested having a regular *A Friend Liked This Book* column. Linda jumped in with a report about a book she liked.

8. Miscellaneous - Donna Aase

- A. Donna is finishing her passport - just has Yale Library to visit.
- B. Melissa asked how often we have a Member Appreciation event. We had one in May. Every 6 months? Once a year?
- C. There's going to be a *Library of Things* starting in November. They're not accepting donations. One must return a borrowed item to the desk (not the book return). There will be a \$10.00 charge if cleaning is needed. No power tools or chain saws, but yes to the loan of blood pressure cuffs and cooking items.

9. Meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m. Next meeting: Thursday November 20, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.