

# Friends of Cascade Park Library Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2026 - *FINAL*

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**1. Call to order:** Meeting called to order at 6:06 p.m. by President Donna Aase. Those present were: Donna Aase, Jan Allen (online), Ruth Chamberlin, Janelle Faber, Jean Kent, Joan Lamy, Linda McHan, Janice Mills, Julie Nakao, Rachael Ries (library staff), Stephanie Sanchez, and Melissa Webb. Donna pointed out that the “J’s” were well-represented: Jan, Janelle, Janice, Jean, Joan and Julie.

## **2. Minutes - Jean Kent**

A. The minutes of the November 20th meeting were approved as written. (The wall clock was missing - Rachael said two other clocks are also. They’re each being replaced with units which keep time accurately.)

## **3. Treasurer’s reports - Stephanie Sanchez**

A. Stephanie presented the treasurer’s reports for both November and December, 2025. November’s report included the A&I auction payments and December’s had the silent-auction payment for the one basket which did not sell at the dinner.

B. Question about a couple items on the report - Clarification from Rachael about program expenses (new plastic food for kids kitchen area and a new play cash register).

C. In December FoCPL connected to the on-line payment processor made available by the Foundation to its Friends Groups. We can now accept on-line payments via credit cards for donations and memberships from our JOIN US webpage.

D. Each month, the Foundation will send a report of on-line payment transactions to the Treasurers and Vice President for subsequent actions related to the Treasurers' Monthly Report and Members, respectively.

E. The Foundation can also provide a different connection for purchases at Friends Bookstores and Book Sales. We will consider this option, in the foreseeable future.

F. After a discussion about whether or not to establish a minimum fee for on-line payments, a decision was made to set a \$5.00 minimum.

G. The Foundation's on-line payment processor is currently set up to only accept payments by credit-card. Questions were raised and discussion followed about whether and how to eventually include payments using digital wallets (e.g., Google Pay, PayPal, ApplePay, etc.,. ) . The prevailing perception was that "People under 40 seem to prefer online payment systems rather than cash." Since we want to attract this population group, the matter will eventually be pursued with the Foundation.

## **4. Book Store - Linda McHan**

A. Linda reported 189.5 volunteer hours for Nov. and 197.25 for Dec.

B. Has used up her storage space since there have been so many donations lately. Weekly turnover of books is high. She might have pop-up sales. Rachael has an A-frame dry-erase sign she could use.

C. Is starting a new volunteer but in addition, Linda needs two more volunteers for two open slots (M and also F at 3:00 p.m.).

D. Linda held up an envelope she found in a small paperback book which had 21 one hundred dollar bills in it - all ‘old’ bills - but still good, said the bank. It was shocking for her! Ruth took the money to deposit in the bank.

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

- A. Nov: 21,729 visitors, 16 curbside deliveries, 549 incoming boxes processed. Dec: 22,759 visitors, 27 curbside deliveries, 659 incoming boxes processed.
- B. Library of Things (LoT) is going strong; Children's Craft Fair was very successful. Rachael would like to do it again next year. Participants enjoyed being amongst other kids who made items and were selling them; They added additional tech help which will be the drop-in type on the first Monday of the month from 2-3pm. Still have the weekly Thursday 10-11:30am drop in help; presentation about the Constitution by the college professor was excellent but not well attended.
- C. Displays - January display is wood-etching by Pat; Kathy Nichols has water colors in the gallery. The water-bottle display was supposed to be in January but will be in March.
- D. Coming up: Board Meeting at Cascade Park, Feb 17th, (a Tuesday due to MLK holiday). I.T. comes and sets up the technology for the hybrid meeting; Started a Spanish Conversation Circle that meets Wednesdays 6-7:30pm; Indie Publishing with local author [Brian Tashima](#) Saturday 17th, 1-2pm; Puzzle Completion Contest January 31st 12-2pm.
- E. Request has been sent in from Julie and Linda for updated signs for the book store.
- F. Large study room is now able to accept regular (repeating) reservations. Seats 10.
- G. Suggested idea as part of the kickoff for Summer Reading: Friends Happy Hour/Book Sale, Thursday, June 18th to include: 5-6 Goat Happy Hour; 4-6 Happy Hour and Book Sale (Community Room from 12-5?); 6-7 Friends Meeting (could be later if necessary). Goats were attractive to the demographic of 20-30yo so let's have the goats come again. Will still have our Friends Volunteer Party in April.
- H. Friends helped fund: Gnome program; Wreath Making; Gingerbread Creations; Teen Late Night snacks; Kids and Tweens Create.
- I. For patron privacy, books on hold will now return to having just the first four letters of patron's last name displayed. (Amusing how many of us only have four letters in our last names.)

## **6. Communications Chair - Julie Nakao**

- A. Julie reprinted the bookmarks to replenish our stock; the reprinted bookmarks have a new QR Code that links to the Support/Join webpage so that the on-line payment option will be readily available. She also shared her new bookmark design which includes a bowl of potato chips - just like books, you can't stick with just one.
- B. Melissa sent a list of our members to Sherry to double check for background checks but hasn't heard back yet.

## **7. Miscellaneous - Donna Aase**

- A. Donna reminded us of the FVRL board meeting and discussion about 'equity' and 'intellectual freedom'. Will the board vote at the meeting or postpone their decision again?
- B. Puzzle competition. Team: Janice, Stephanie, Donna and ? They met to plan.

## **8. Meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m. Next meeting: Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.**