

# Friends of Cascade Park Library Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2026 - *FINAL*

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**1. Call to order:** Meeting called to order at 6:01 p.m. by President Donna Aase. Those present were: Donna Aase, Amanda Cavanaugh, Ruth Chamberlin, Alicia Gomori (FVRL deputy director), Sandy Granich, Jean Kent, Linda McHan, Janice Mills, Rachael Ries (library staff), Stephanie Sanchez, Erin Stuhlsatz, and Melissa Webb.

The spring volunteer-appreciation 'tea party' had just concluded.

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

A. The minutes of the March 19th meeting were approved as written.

## **3. Treasurer's report - Stephanie Sanchez**

A. Stephanie presented the treasurer's report for March. Normal donation amounts deposited.

B. Rolled-over the CD for a 6 month term and also added \$2,500 from the checking account to the CD.

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

A. Linda reported 225 volunteer hours for March.

B. March was a busy month, also the store has received a 'ton' of donated books.

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

A. Rachael's quote: "Success in life should be determined by contributions, not accumulations."  
Arthur Lenehan.

B. 25,088 visitors, 12 curbside deliveries, 625 incoming delivery boxes.

C. Clothing Swap, Courtyard is open (Fairy Garden needs some work, branches trimmed), Rhys Thomas *Jugglemania*, Seed to Supper concluded, Poetry and Pizza.

D. Coming Up: Low-Waste Chef Saturday, April 18·2:00 – 3:30pm, Trivia Night Wednesday, April 22·6:00 – 7:30pm (any takers to form a 4-person team? uh, no.), Watercolor painting - Kathy Nichols Friday, April 24·3:00 – 5:00pm, Recycling Done Right Wednesday, April 29·6:00 – 7:30pm, Trashion Show Saturday, May 2·2:00 – 3:00pm.

E. The 100 small canvases (with easels) for the public to take and use to create a piece of art have a brochure in the bag. Rachael passed that brochure around. Art pieces will be returned to the library by May 30th. Julie will be on the judging panel.

F. All copies of *Tilt*, the 'community reads' book, are checked out. *Community Reads* Keynote with Emma Pattee will livestream, Wed., May 13, 6:00pm–7:30pm, Vancouver Community Library..

G. Friends have helped with program support for: Staff Recognition lunch for Library Workers Day and a Farewell to Security Guard who is moving on. Guard opening has been posted. We will receive full-time coverage.

H. No *Newberry Book* report this week.

I. Library hours and days are changing; As of June 1, M-Th 10 to 8, Fr, Sa, and **Sunday**, 10-6.

Increased FTE needed for additional open-hours is a result of following through with promises made during the passage of the levy lid lift. This change will affect the volunteers at the book store. The

district wants consistency across the district including district-wide staffing so, despite the fact that Cascade Park's library has many patrons from 9 to 10 on week days, the later start time will still take effect at CP. This increased usage at our library during that early hour might be related to the adjacent Firstenburg Center. The data (door counts, circulation stats, etc.) will be watched closely to see how this change is working out. Hours may adjust to data.

J. Rachael attended the PLA (Public Library Association) conference. Some book stores use "Thrift Books" to scan and determine value of donated books. Thrift Books will buy some books - they provide packaging and pay for postage. Sandy will check out the app.

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

A. No report this week.

## **7. Vice President - Melissa Webb**

A. Thanks for the help with planning and execution of the High Tea Volunteer party. Now, on to planning for the next event - the mocktail/goat/pop-up-sale/open-to-the-public one in June. It will be in the Community Room.

## **8. Other Business**

A. Secretary Jean Kent read her report on obtaining a pod and phone for client use. Basically the pod is about \$5,000 (more if accessible to wheel chair users), and \$350 for a heavy-duty phone. Rachael will submit the report to Jennifer Giltrop and see what the response is.

B. Library is getting a new phone system in the future. Right now an assessment of all 15 library branches is happening.

C. *Trashion Show* needs a judge - Stephanie stepped up again as no one else was both available and wanted to be a judge. Janice will be a back up (she has to check the date).

D. Friends of Washougal flyers were distributed along with an Authors and Illustrators dinner flyer featuring Amy Tan.

E. Erin mentioned that we could support Washougal by attending their 'dinner at a restaurant' fund raiser. Part of the restaurant's profits go to the library's Friends group. Erin will gather details.

F. Sandy asked if it was time to start the baskets for the A&I dinner.

G. Signed a card for a convalescing member.

H. Stephanie and Jean will read the Friends' statement regarding behavior and actions of the FVRL trustees at their April meeting.

## **9. Deputy Director of FVRL - Alicia Gomori**

A. Thank you to all the volunteers and for inviting her to the party. It's encouraging to see people's concern for each other.

B. Has been in this role almost two years now.

C. Feel free to contact her with concerns or feedback.

## **10. Meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m. Next meeting: Thursday, May 21, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Topic: Public Libraries should provide a public phone located in a private pod space which can be used by patrons.**

1. There is a strong need and a phone would be used frequently.
2. Currently patrons use the Information Desk phone which ties up the phone for library use, takes place in public, is not sanitary, and is often inconvenient for library staff.
3. Pod should be located where it is readily visible by staff and patrons.
4. Friends of the Library can pay for the pod/booth, the phone itself, and for the additional phone line if that is needed.
  - a. pod - GEARONIC Mobile Office Pod Booth, Sound-Proof Booth for Home, Mobile Roller with Desk, LED Light, Fans and AC USB Ports (White)  
\$4,999.00. Additional cost for a wheel chair accessible pod.
  - b. armored phone (like is used in prisons) \$370.00, has no speaker-phone ability  
<https://www.armoredphones.com/armored-inmate-phone-voip-jp-3700-voip->
5. Sign posted: Please limit your calls to 15 minutes if someone is waiting to use the phone.

**Issues;**

1. Users would need something to write on and with (supplied by library staff).
2. Would require installation by the phone company or library maintenance staff.
3. Would need to be wheel chair accessible.
4. Would add to regular library maintenance time since the pod would need to be cleaned on a regular basis.