

Friends of Cascade Park Library Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2026 - *FINAL*

1. Call to order: Meeting called to order at 6:01 p.m. by president Donna Aase. Those present were: Donna Aase, Ruth Chamberlin, Marilee Frets, Sandy Granich, Jean Kent, Linda McHan, Janice Mills, Rachael Ries (library staff), Stephanie Sanchez, Tina Smith, and Melissa Webb. Brief summer highlights noted.

2. Minutes - Secretary Jean Kent

A. The minutes of the August 20 meeting were approved as written. A later correction was noted in 6D: an incorrect date. The correct date is Oct. 6 (A&I dinner and banning books event).

3. Treasurer's report - Stephanie Sanchez

A. Stephanie presented the August report. \$500.00 donation noted (and appreciated).

4. Book Store - Linda McHan

A. Linda reported 208.75 volunteer hours for August.

B. It's sometimes hard to find subs to mind the book store.

C. Two high school girls have 2 years to accumulate 400 community service volunteer hours so signed up for Sundays. Noted: There are sometimes when there is nothing to do when minding the book store.

D. Getting a lot of 'old' books donated.

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

A. 25,469 visitors, 16 Curbside deliveries, 654 incoming delivery boxes.

B. Strong turn-out on Sundays for the family story-time (31 people); 3D printer certification and use continues to be steady (Steve did a great job running the training class); interactive front entry display for Hispanic Heritage Month.

C. Coming up we have: Teen 5-Minute Film Festival-Sat Sept 26th 10am-12pm (no-one was available to table); Team Puzzle Tournament 2pm 9/19 (Friends are fielding a team); Clothing Swap 2pm 9/20; Adult sewing 2pm 9/26; Yarn Art 2pm 9/27; Area agency on Aging and Disability: Legal and Financial Issues 11am 10/2.

D. Friends helped with: Baby Art Exploration supplies. Thirty babies 0 to 18 months and their parent(s) participated in this event. There were several outfit changes and the 'paint' was edible.

E. Rachael's quote: *"You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."* Jane Goodall.

F. Tim, facilities manager, took a tour of outside and also spoke with the guard as part of his project to visit all the libraries and assess facility needs. What project(s) is reasonable and productive for the Friends to pay for? Thoughts... sprinkler head replacement, motion-detector lighting (would animals set it off?), but probably not for one-time maintenance. Some areas of the grounds are frequently visited after hours - need to address that. Staff group themselves and use their phones as flashlights when walking to their cars after dark. There is no lighting where the cars are parked.

G. Sophie (director of communications and marketing) will meet quarterly with library managers to prioritize events and hone marketing targets. This will hopefully increase attendance at some poorly-attended events.

H. Rachael will present her budget at the November meeting (Friends do not meet in December).

6. Nominating Committee - Sandy Granich

A. Both Stephanie (Co-Treasurer) and Melissa (Vice President) agreed to serve again. Vote for slate of candidates was unanimous. 2-year term.

B. Linda (Book store manager) accepted her appointment. Julie (Communications) was contacted and also accepted her appointment. We still need a Volunteer Coordinator (another appointed position). Janice said she'd consider it.

7. Other Business

A. A&I tables will be full after wait-listed individual is contacted. The auction items were dropped off.

B. The *Peace and Justice fair* was successful - tables for us and for the downtown library Friends group. We gave away children's books. The spinner was an attention getter. We received a few Friends signups. Stephanie would do it again.

C. Rachael confirmed with us that it's ok to use Friends pencils for the kids program. YES!

D. Sandy's picture was in the FVRL *News & Events* publication.

8. Meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m. Next meeting: *Thursday, October 15, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.*