

Friends of the Arlington Library Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Kelly Fado, Martin Pippins, Judith Kindell, Joni Sterne, Jamie Krovontka, Laura Porter, Maggie Colston, Gineane Goldsmith, Peter Petruski, Halyna Hodges, Jane Posner, Sharyn Meister, Kate Summers, Claire Christian, Rob Hizon

I Library Updates

All locations remain closed due to COVID-19 shelter-in-place guidelines. E-resources are essential - and 15,000 e-books have been added to the collection. Usage of e-books is up 50% over last year. Increased social media - “social media takeovers” and “shelfies” - some message fatigue - low open/participation rates for Arlington Reads events. Library determining how to make books safe as they get returned, and run Summer Reading Program - not enough information right now to make decision - will monitor local guidelines and proceed accordingly. Book/author talks have been postponed - will try to reschedule or book for online event.

II FOAL Finances

Audit is complete and 990 has been filed. Some loss of revenue due to book sale, but also fewer expenses due to social distancing/library closures (coronavirus.) Chocolate sales are complete and the check will be issued once the store re-opens. Library mail is being held at post office - donations/checks will be sorted once mail is delivered (after shelter-in-place restrictions are lifted.)

III Fundraising & Membership

Maggie will proceed with sending out membership renewals; a membership survey will be included with newsletter - to gather data on potential changes to membership program and determine what members are interested in as far as benefits.

The library could use funding for additional e-books - including simultaneous-use titles, mobile hotspots - how-tos for accessing e-books and other pieces of collection to be included on website.

Need to plan for Annual Meeting in June - can we host it on Zoom or other virtual platform?
Minutes from February and March will be sent around via email and voted on.