

FOAL JUNE MEETINGS

JUNE 7, 2022

Board Members Present: Kelly Fado, Rob Hizon, Marty Pippins, Jamie Krovontka, Laura Porter, Jane Posner, Sharyn Meister, Halyna Hodges, Sheila Leonard.

Board Members Absent: Judy Kindell, Maggie Colston, Kate Summers, Claire Christian.

Library Representative Present: Peter Petruski.

Kelly gave a short presentation to the gathering:

FOAL has had very busy 2022! We returned to book sales last Fall with a small sale in the Library's auditorium, and the last weekend of April we held our normal book sale in the garage of Central Library. We were delighted to see so many people again, and we sold thousands of books.

Fall book sale

We have not set a date for our Fall 2022 sale but we anticipate it will be in the garage again. Watch our website for dates – and if you have books to donate, please bring them to Central Library. You can put them on the blue carts as you enter the door, and you can pick up receipts from the circulation desk. If you have a large donation, we have special hours on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from Noon – 4pm. Pull into the loading dock and ring the buzzer and volunteers will help you unload your donations. Receipts available at the loading dock.

Support for the Library

One of our most important functions is to support the Arlington Library system – we do this with our time, most of us represent branches and spend time there attending programs in each branch– we work at the book sales, and we also show up at the County Board meetings (in person and virtually) to advocate for greater funding for our amazing libraries, and we support the library with funding:

In 2021- 2022, FOAL provided the library with \$357,600.

\$80,000 for Arlington Reads

\$7,000 for The Shop

\$22,000 for Adult programming

\$154,600 for collection support

\$3,000 for the Shed/Gardening

\$36,000 for Youth Services

\$2,000 for the library to recognize their volunteers

\$3,000 for branch programs

\$50,000 for the summer reading program.

Finances

When I joined Friends, I was fascinated to learn that Friends of the Arlington Library was incorporated in 1981, and began fundraising in the community. There was a big push in 1995 to raise \$100,000 and many local businesses contributed – such as Arlington Hospital, Georgetown Hospital, the Kiwanis and Lions Clubs of Arlington, Time Life, Rosenthal Automotive, the Arlington Community Foundation. Beginning in 1996, the goal was to provide the library with \$50,000 annually and to do this, Friends established one of the first funds at the Arlington Community Foundation. The quote in the announcement of the fund was: “tax revenues alone can no longer guarantee that the Arlington County Public Library will remain the exceptional system that it is. If all citizens are Arlington are to share in the promise of the future, the library needs to remain a vital link to the world of learning, information, and the printed word.”

That sentiment is still true, and FOAL still has the fund at the Arlington Community Foundation, and it has just over \$2 million dollars in it.

As I indicated earlier we provide the Library with about \$350,000 annually, this money is from donations, memberships, book sales, and the foundation account.

Our audit shows us in good shape financially, and in response to feedback from our members, we plan to upgrade our membership system this year.

Board Openings and Responsibilities

The Board has some openings for committed individuals who have time to volunteer and an interest in the library and literacy programs.

We need a representative for Aurora Hill, for Plaza, and for Shirlington Branch Libraries. The Library reps work with the Library Branch Manager to see what help FOAL can provide. In some cases, FOAL will hold an event at the Library, we have done some young reader parties at Columbia Pike. We also provide help in other ways – our Glencarlyn rep recently identified a need for an updated children’s collection and FOAL made \$600 available for that need.

The Board helps out at book sales, and most importantly meets regularly – usually on the first Monday of the month – to make decisions about events, expenditures, initiatives. Interested individuals are encouraged to email the Board at info@arlingtonlibraryfriends.org

One last piece of business:

All FOAL Members in attendance need to vote on the slate of officers who will serve from July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023, the Board nominates as its slate of officers:

President - Claire Christian

Vice President – Jane Posner

Treasurer – Judith Kindell

Secretary – Laura Porter – and if you’re a FOAL member you should know that Laura writes our excellent newsletters.

The motion was made to accept the slate of officers, the motion was seconded, and passed unanimously.

June 29, 2022:

The Board met to act on the Library’s budget request for 2022-2023.

Board Members Present: Kelly Fado, Jamie Krovontka, Laura Porter, Marty Pippins, Jane Posner, Sharyn Meister, Sheila Leonard, Judy Kindell, Kate Summers and Claire Christian.

Board Members Absent: Maggie Colston, Rob Hizon, Halyna Hodges.

The Board discussed our financial situation with book sale revenues down significantly, and with the endowment down due to fluctuations in the stock market. The Board also discussed the Library’s request for 2022-2023 for \$446,000 to include \$220,000 earmarked for Arlington Reads. The Board voted unanimously to fund the requested increases in The Shop, adult programming, volunteer recognition at the branches, and branch programs, and to fund Arlington Reads at the rate of \$130,000 which is equal to the funding provided in 2019-2020 during the last pre-pandemic year.

The approved budget is below with the budgets from the last three years as well.

	2022-2023	2021-2022	2020-2021	2019-2020
<i>Arlington Reads</i>	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 130,000.00
<i>The Shop</i>	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 6,261.00	\$ 7,000.00
<i>Adult programming</i>	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
<i>Collections support</i>	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 87,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
<i>The Shed</i>	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00
<i>youth services</i>	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 68,000.00	\$ 53,000.00
<i>volunteer recognition @ branches</i>	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 2,000.00
<i>branch programs</i>	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 14,739.00	\$ 7,000.00
<i>summer reading</i>	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Total</i>	\$ 356,000.00	\$ 293,000.00	\$ 281,500.00	\$ 332,000.00
<i>One time Glencarlyn Children's collection</i>		\$ 600.00		
<i>One time library collections</i>		\$ 64,000.00		
FINAL AMOUNT	\$ 356,000.00	\$ 357,600.00	\$ 281,500.00	\$ 332,000.00

In addition, the Board voted to pay Laura Porter \$1200 to produce 4 newsletters annually, and approved the May and June meeting minutes.