

October 7, 2024

## **Friends of the Arlington Public Library (FOAL) Board Meeting Minutes**

### **Board Members:**

Present: Claire Christian, Judy Kindell, Jamie Krovontka, Todd Ludeke, Rob Hizon, Natalia Lanteigne, Kelly Fado, Laura Porter, Jane Posner

Absent: Brittany Robertson, Kate Summers

### **Others Present:**

Library: Rebecca Case, Diane Kresh

Other: Marty Pippins, Merri Horn, Barbara Adde, Amy Miller

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President, Claire Christian

### **I. September 9, 2024 board meeting minutes**

**MOTION: Judy Kindell moved to approve the September minutes; Natalia Lanteigne seconded; motion was approved unanimously.**

### **II. Library report and MOA**

Diane thanked the Board for a successful fall book sale, as well as for the celebration of her 50 years in libraries. Rebecca and Diane will meet this week for a debrief on the book sale. Diane would also like to discuss fundraising opportunities to raise the profile of FOAL.

Rebecca concurred that the book sale was successful and a huge team effort. The library and FOAL will continue to get together for quarterly financial meetings. The MOA has been signed and Rebecca will send FOAL a copy of the final document.

### **III. Donations and membership report**

- 19 donations totaling \$4,101.78.
- 112 new/renewals totaling \$4,030.00
- Total of 1,364 FOAL members (291 lifetime members)
- We plan on doing another campaign around Giving Tuesday.

### **IV. Book sale**

We broke \$100,000 in sales for the first time since before the pandemic.

A shortened debrief of the book sale was held and initial thoughts from various board members follows:

- Not having cars in the garage worked nicely but need to rethink how to get book dealers in and out.
- Starting at 4 p.m. on Thursday worked really well; the last 45 minutes of that evening were smooth.
- 8.5/10 on the carts used vs. shrink wrap. We may want to get a few more volunteers for next sale for the cleanup.
- Marty would like to schedule the April 2026 sale by the end of this year.

- Upcoming sale dates: April 3-6, 2025 and October 23-26, 2025.
- Having the purchasing line start on the other side of the sale was much cleaner and kept people moving.
- We should refine how the backdrop is used. Potentially get more signage so that people know to take photos.
- Great to have the Quincy room back!
- Suggestion to have a members night sale with a 20 book limit; maybe on Wednesday shortly after the volunteer sale.
- Assign new volunteers to an experienced partner.
- Rethink how leftover books at end of the sale could potentially be distributed to schools, senior centers, non-profits, etc.
- Further educate the public on where the book sale profits go. Advertising and signage at future sales?

Rebecca will report back to the Board on next steps for the spring book sale, as well as coordinate a book sale committee meeting.

#### **V. Next board meeting**

The next board meeting will be on Monday, November 4, 2024 at 7 p.m.

#### **Board Decisions**

- Approval of September meeting minutes.

#### **Action Items**

- Meet with the book sale subcommittee to further refine processes for future sales.

FOAL Board Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

#### **Executive session**

- Discussion of adding a new board member with the goal of having an official vote at the November meeting.
- Discussion of thank you gifts for key helpers at the book sale.
- Discussion of the donation from Amazon.

Executive session adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Amy Miller