

April 7, 2025

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

Board Members:

Present: Claire Christian, Rob Hizon, Judy Kindell, Andrew Goodwin, Todd Ludeke, Barbara Adde, Brittany Robertson, Natalia Lanteigne, Michelle Kilkenny, Kelly Fado

Absent: Jane Posner, Laura Porter, Jamie Krovontka, Kate Summers

Others Present:

Library: Diane Kresh, Rebecca Case

Other: Marty Pippins, Amy Miller, Maureen Quinn

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m. by President, Claire Christian

I. March 3, 2025 board meeting minutes

MOTION: Judith Kindell moved to approve the March minutes; Natalia Lanteigne seconded; motion was approved unanimously.

II. Library report

Rebecca and Diane expressed their thanks for a wonderful spring book sale. They are waiting to hear from the county on final budget determination, which should come out on April 10. Rebecca plans to present the 2025-2026 budget request at the May FOAL Board meeting.

Diane shared that as of this meeting, the library is slated to get an additional \$100K in one-time funding from the county board, bringing the library budget to \$350K, which is a long way off from \$850K from prior years. Diane would like FOAL to convey her thanks to all of the advocates who showed up to the County Board meeting in March.

Diane discussed the need to figure out FOAL's role in funding the library because she feels very strongly that funding the library is the county's responsibility. Whether or not we have a generous partner in the friend's group, it does not or should not take away the county's responsibility to fund the library to the degree it can. Diane's job is to work with the manager and the board. Diane will redouble her efforts, but would like to set out that marker now. Come this time next year, she would like to see \$100-\$200K added to the base.

Natalia and Claire plan to look at the budget; have some internal board conversations about various scenarios and how we might respond to potential gaps in funding. They would like to plan for the next couple of years.

Claire would like to use this exercise for ongoing advocacy for next year and start communicating with the community sooner.

III. Finance update

\$2M in ACF, \$211 in two bank accounts.

IV. Donations and membership report

March 1 to 31, 2025

- 52 donations totaling \$ 8,394.21
- 134 new/renewals totaling \$ 4,455.00
- Total of 1,350 FOAL members (295 lifetime members)

V. Upcoming library and FOAL events

The Community Picnic and Joining Fair will take place on Saturday, May 31 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. We need volunteers to staff the FOAL table, and Amy will send out a Signupgenius link.

Curtis Sittenfeld author event is on Thursday, April 10 and FOAL will table.

VI. Book sale highlights

The spring book sale raised \$101,617. Rob reported that the Books and Bubbly went well, and he and Kate would like to do it again in the fall. Further details to be provided.

The crowd was very robust throughout the entire sale and volunteer staffing seemed just right. The Quincy Room also had brisk traffic throughout the sale. At closing Barbara was able to pick up books for Green Valley and AFAC.

The POS with tap, insert and swipe technology was much better. We need figure out the logistics of handling the tap better for future sales.

Additional comments from the group included that Rebecca appreciated the volunteer table in the lobby area and thought we had an amazing turn out and weekend! Michelle really loved the community aspect of the sale – anyone she came across were excited to be there.

Marty would like to lock-in a date for the October 2026 sale and will present date options to the board in May.

VII. Next board meeting

The next board meeting will be on Monday, May 5, 2025 at 7 p.m.

Board Decisions

- Approval of the March meeting minutes.
- Vote to approve Michelle Kilkenny to join the Board.
- Approval for \$2,899.75 for a spring/summer t-shirt order via email on May 1, 2025.

Action Items

- Amy will look into a location for our June annual meeting.
- Marty to come up with date options for the October 2026 book sale.

FOAL Board Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Amy Miller