

10/3/18

Friends of the Arlington Library (FOAL)

Meeting Minutes

Present: Kate Summers, Judith Kindell, Judy Hijikata, Sharyn Meister, Kelly Fado, Martin Pippin, Nada Sulaiman, Rob Hizon, Claire Christian, Gineane Goldsmith, Kate Schweigert, Laura Porter, Joni & Marx Sterne, and Peter Petruski and Julia Berg representing the Library.

I. **Call to Order:** 7:06pm

II. **Approval of Minutes:** Board approved the September minutes.

III. Book Sale

- We called Neil and got a status update.
- Neil and Book Store Movers have it all under control. Although we may ultimately need more hours for both Neil and Book Store Movers, the pre-planning and communication are working well.
- We are advertising on Facebook with a boosted post through Saturday.
- We have contacted Arlington Now, MONA, Craig's List, Nextdoor, and various neighborhood list services.
- We are a bit short on volunteers, but the Board worked out coverage, so we have at least two on every shift.
- We are going to have CBO send us a database that we can access for Member night.
- 3 Non Profit requests for shopping on Sunday – ASPAN, Prison Ministry, Arlington Free Clinic.
- Amazing collection of sheet music donated, some signed, valuation of some through Quinn's Auction House.
- The board voted to support Joni's request for 1000 plastic folios to protect the donations of sheet music. Cost under \$200 approved unanimously.

IV. Library Report

Julia introduced the Library's new vision statement and logo. Universal support from the Board for the Library's work on this.

The board reiterated their desire to meet with Diane this year (Nov or Dec) to discuss how we can best advocate against future cuts, and how we can best help maintain services after the recent cut in funding.

V. Open Discussion:

Judith Kindell explained that under federal tax law, FOAL could engage in legislative advocacy so long as it was not a substantial part of our activities. In determining what is substantial, the IRS would currently look at all the “facts and circumstances,” which would include expenditures and volunteer time that would need to be tracked. However, FOAL could make an election to be covered by the “expenditure test” for this year and in the future so that we have to track all expenses related to advocacy. We would still be prohibited from favoring or opposing candidates for public office, as this applies only for legislative advocacy. Under this test, the limit is a declining percentage of exempt purpose expenditures that starts at 20% of the first \$500,000, with a total limit of \$1 million. She did the research and we can do it mid-year and so she made the motion to make the election to use the “expenditure test”. Kelly seconded it, and the Board unanimously approved it. Judith provided Martin Pippins with a copy of Form 5768 to make the election.

Adjourned: 8:33 pm

- VI. On October 9, 2018, via email, the Board approved adding Everybody Wins DC to the list of groups who receive \$50 worth of free books on Sunday. Kate Schweigert made a motion to approve, seconded by Kate Summers and approved by the Board. Voting: Laura Porter, Kelly Fado, Rob Hizon, Sharon Meister, Nada Sulaiman, Marty Pippin, Claire Christian.

Board Decisions in October 2018:

- Approval of September minutes
- Approval of request by Joni Sterne to purchase protective folios for sheet music up to \$200.
- Approval to elect to use “the expenditure test” so that when we engage in advocacy we only need to track our expenses.
- Four groups for \$50 in free books on Sunday: ASPAN, Arlington Free Clinic, Prison Ministries, Everybody Wins DC.

Upcoming Meetings

November 5 – with Diane at the beginning of the meeting.

December 3 – likely a dinner with the Artisan confectioners' boxes for sale.