

## KFL Friends Annual Meeting Minutes 11/3/2025

Attending: *Kat Boucher, President; Risa Oganessoff Heersche, Vice President; Deb Redding-Sampson, recorder; Sarah Lucchesi, Liaison to Trustees; Michelle Conners, Library Director (via Zoom); Allison Atkins, Assistant Library Director; Anita Randall, Development Director (via Zoom); Peg Nelson, Diana Rush, Michele Butler-Parr; Gene Parr; Kate Wormwood, Donna Gomez; Linda Brown; Peter Quinn; Tina Sharkey; Andrea Carey; Jim Perry, Trustee; Laura Dauphinais, Trustee; Linda DeFelice*

1. Call to order at 5:30 pm: Kat welcomed everyone and attendees introduced themselves and their role.
2. Approval of September 8, 2025, meeting minutes: Approved unanimously and without edits (Motion: Donna Gomez, Linda DeFelice)
3. Old Business
  - A. Book Sorting Committee: Peg Nelson reported ongoing space challenges, noting young adult (YA) and large print books aren't selling. Committee is always looking for places to donate them away. Book sorting is weekly (Wed. 1:30-3 pm; Fri. 9:30-11 am)—please contact Peg if interested, especially for Fridays.
  - B. Membership Update: Michelle noted 70 members in 2025; push for 2026 membership (new and renewal) started at October's HarvestFest. Don't forget to join.
  - C. HarvestFest Book Sale Update: \$623 was netted. Over past few years book sales have been bringing in less \$, likely due to lower pricing—October book sale had prices raised slightly. Peg noted we do not track inventory but stated that non-fiction and DVDs sold well if re-shelving after the sale is any indication (one person bought 60 DVDs). Note: the 3 bookseller outlets we work with account for consistent overall income stream (almost \$800 April through September 2025); no update available for this meeting.
  - D. Arundel Heritage Day Update: Held in September, KFL's first time participating. Used books were sold, raising \$75 (improve variety next time) and coupons were given out for a free book to anyone with a library card who came to October book sale—13 were redeemed. Feedback at AHD was very supportive of KFL; we will do it again next year. Kudos to Judy Pitchforth and Sarah Lucchesi for seeing it come to fruition.
  - E. Leadership 2026: Kat reported the Friends leadership team remains the same for another year **as we are one year into two-year terms**, and encouraged anyone interested in learning about leadership to let her or the team know; they welcome anyone to shadow their roles over the coming year. Risa stated that diversity of leadership is important, thus the call for 2027 candidates.
4. New Business

- A. 2026 Membership Drive: started in October, applications are available at front desk area or on-line. This year the leadership team will be calling members to hear their thoughts, interests, ideas and answer questions.
- B. KFL Trustee Request for Event Support: The Trustees have asked the Friends to take on the annual fall wreath sale for 2026 (to be discussed at a later meeting) and the Seashore Trolley Museum Ice Cream Social (a Wednesday in July or August 2026). Trolley event requires 6-7 volunteers for about 2 hours, scooping ice cream and displaying info about KFL, in return for a share of the proceeds (about \$500 this past summer). A great event, all materials provided, requires coordination between a Friends point person and the museum about 8 weeks prior. Laura Dauphinais will provide transition support next year.
- C. Tree Decorating: An Annual Friends activity, placing collection of story book characters on the library tree after Thanksgiving. These are dolls that were donated a while ago for patrons to enjoy. Deb R-S, Donna Gomez, and Kate Wormwood volunteered and will wait to hear from KFL staff as to when to get started. Decorations are removed after the holidays by same team, in coordination with KFL.
- D. Library Updates: Michelle noted that a new cataloguer has been hired, to start in January. Gutter and chimney work happens soon, as well as installing a new chiller for the HVAC system. A committee is moving along with a library expansion plan, hosting construction manager and architect interviews. It is a lengthy, detailed process. Allison hinted at a new library acquisition, and led the group to a mobile, two-seated Pod at the back of the library stacks, to be used for tutoring, Zoom meetings, etc. Thank you, John, for assembling it.
- E. Holiday Fundraising: Anita spoke about the 2025 Holiday Giving campaign, with a goal of \$65K this year. A Challenge grant of \$20K will unlock once \$45K has been raised (thanks to generous support from the Harrington Family, the Trustees, and anonymous donor). Volunteers can sign up now to help with mailing prep. About 3500 pieces are mailed out to the KFL donor community (which stretches far and wide). In response to a question, Anita noted that the KFL donor base grows yearly, gives generously (70% give again) and saw \$63K come in last year for the Holiday Fundraiser.
- F. 2026 Meeting Dates: meetings will be on Mondays, from 5:30-6:30 PM, in person unless otherwise noted: February 2, April 6, August 31, November 2. (The August meeting replaces September date, which is Labor Day this year)

## 5. 2026 Book Sales and Other Events

May Day Book Sale: May 2, 2026

Blueberry Festival Book Sale: July 2026 TBD

Seashore Trolley Museum Ice Cream Social: July or early August 2026, TBD (a Wednesday)

Arundel Heritage Day: September 2026 TBD

Wreath Sale Preparation: late August and September 2026 (for August meeting agenda)

HarvestFest Book Sale: October 2026 TBD

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM (Risa, motion to adjourn)