

KFL Friends Meeting Minutes 9/8/25

Attending- Kat Boucher, President; Risa Oganessoff Heersche, Vice President; Liz Hamel, Recorder; Sarah Lucchesi, Liaison to Trustees; Michelle Conners, Library Director; Allison Atkins, Assistant Library Director; Dianne Napolitano; Peg Nelson; Sue Patterson; Diana Rush; Peter Quinn; Jim Perry, Trustee; Vicki Lyons, Trustee; Michele Butler-Parr; Gene Parr; Julie Ottomano; Elizabeth Kaknes (Ellie); Jean Whitney; Laura Dauphinais, Trustee.

1. Call to Order- 5:30pm

Welcome & Introductions- Kat Boucher welcomed the group & asked people to identify themselves & their role.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes- Motion by Peg Nelson; second by Sarah Lucchesi. Vote unanimous to accept minutes of 4/7/25.

3. Old Business

A. Book Sorting Committee: Peg reported book sorting continues every Wednesday & Friday with two teams of volunteers. We hold three book sales a year & occasional pop-up sales at the circulation desk.

We now have three vendors- Kevin (Giddyworm); Better World Books (BWB) and in May 2025 we added Kelly O'Shea. We scan books for Kevin & BWB. Kelly comes in person twice a week to review the donation stock we have left shelved for her to approve or reject. We scan any books Kelly doesn't take for BWB. Remainder books are then saved for our direct sales. Profits garnered since the April meeting: Kevin- \$244.98; BWB- \$247.98; Kelly- \$294. Kelly provided her stats to us: she sold 78 books, one for \$100 & two for \$50 each. Had we sold them ourselves for \$2 each we would have netted \$156, hence the reason we seek the expertise of these book vendors.

B. Membership Update- Michelle shared we have 70 Friends members.

C. Profits: May Day Sale (5/3/25) - \$767.50; Blueberry Festival Sale (7/26/25)- \$907.30

D. Seashore Trolley Museum ice cream social- Laura Dauphinais reported \$462 raised. She thanked Peg, Jim & Diane and others who helped at the event.

E. Arundel Heritage Day- Sat 9/13/25. Sarah Lucchesi shared the sale will run from 10am - 3pm. She needs two additional volunteers, one for the 12-2p slot for sales & one for 2-4p for sales & takedown.

4. New Business-

A. Michelle presented the budget for 7/1/25-6/30/26. For fiscal year 2025 income from Friends fundraisers & donations was \$10,262.89. Michelle answered questions about the budget. Motion by Risa; second by Jean Whitney to accept the budget as presented. Vote unanimous to accept FY '25/'26 budget.

B. Election Planning- Kat and Risa shared that the Friends will be seeking new leaders to start in January 2027, when the two-year term of the current executive committee members (President, Vice President, Recorder, Trustee Liaisons) expires. They are seeking volunteers NOW to come forward to shadow current officers in 2026 to allow ample time for prospective new executive committee members to learn the inner workings of the group in preparation for the term starting in January 2027 (election to be held Nov 2026). They stressed the importance of soliciting new volunteers to bring fresh ideas and to share the responsibilities of managing this awesome group of engaged Friends. They explained that the executive committee works as a team, so no one is overburdened. Please seek out any committee member for further information about the roles available. (for Friends By-Laws [click link here](#))

C. Harvest Fest book sale will be held 10/18/25. Peg will send out an email signup next week for participants.

D. Library Updates-

(1) Michelle reported there were 65 adult programs held from 6/18-8/18 with 950 attendees.

Allison shared that when she started in 2012 there were 1603 adult attendees for the entire year for 123 programs.

(2) Michelle shared that the July 5K fundraiser realized \$53,431 from 18 business sponsorships & \$5400 of in-kind donations from Crotux. For comparison, last year 77 businesses participated for a total of \$45,347 in sponsorships. Overall, the 5k this year grossed over \$76,000 (still being tallied); up over \$10,000 from 2024.

(3) The annual giving reached an all-time high this past fiscal year at \$126,106.16 by 569 donors. The amount has risen steadily over the last five years. In FY 2021 the total was \$65,006.90 by 428 donors. The total revenue was increased by almost 50% & the donor count increased by 33%.

(4) KFL received \$6,070 through Fabulous Finds. The amount was a percentage of their sales for June, split among six libraries.

(5) Emmaline received a grant from SMPDC to purchase a mobile laptop cart & laptops.

(6) KFL is seeking applicants for the position of owner's project manager to collaborate with the director, staff & trustees about the best use of the One Fletcher St property.

(7) Arundel House of Pizza donated \$500.

6. Book Sales & Other Events-

a. Arundel Heritage Day- 9/13/25

b. Harvest Fest- 10/18/25

c. Next Friends meeting 11/3/25. Note- Liz will not be present for the 11/3 meeting. A substitute recorder will be needed.

7. Adjournment- Motion to adjourn by Gene Parr; the meeting was adjourned at 6pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Hamel

Recorder