

FOL Board Meeting January 20, 2026, Christiansburg 3pm

Present: Lynn Brammer, Piper Durrell, Linda Greaver, Ellen Hall, Katarina Osario, Linda Powers, Judy Rea, Brenda Springer

1. Acceptance of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes- approved with one revision
3. Treasure's Report-All the numbers look very good- book sales surpassed expectations (109.3% of what was budgeted), helped by December sales in Meadowbrook and Christiansburg. Donations have been great (152.5% of what was budgeted). However, Brenda noted that CD rates will go down next year and several CD's will be renewed in 2026.

We gave the MFRL \$39,956 for this year as requested , but that was more than FOL brought in last year. However we have \$42,172 in the bank.

4. Budget for 2026

For next year there is a hope, as reflected in the budget that FOL will bring in more money/profit. The proposed budget is \$35, 325 with a hope of more profit from donations, book sales and the garden tour (possibly add in other events such as a silent auction etc).

Book Sales- aim for\$20,000

Garden Tour- tickets \$20 each, fewer paper tickets (tickets on phones), cut back on printed material period, less expenses in general, In Blacksburg, Airport Acres usually popular so aim for more ticket sales- aim for \$8,000 in profit

Individual Donations- aim for \$6,200

Memberships- hope for more, plus donations

Hospitality-lower to \$300

5. Membership Report

47 membership renewals received since Katarina sent out membership renewal requests to members (plus 4 from people at meeting who said they would be sending their membership forms).

Some email return issues

She will send out another renewal request.

Many members add a small or large donation to their membership renewals.

6. Book Sales

Brought in \$19, 672 for 2025

7. Newsletter

All the articles are in and ready to go, there will be a request for volunteers for Board members for Membership and Secretary. Blacksburg Library will put up a flyer seeking

New volunteers, members. A question was raised as to whether the newsletter has mentioned -lately- the list of donors, Ellen will check on this.

Distribution List (newsletter/membership list)- could we use this more frequently to send out notices of interest

8. Garden Tour

All is well, committee meeting soon, 6 gardens in Airport Acres/Blacksburg, maybe \$2000 in expenses with hope for \$8000 in profit.

9. Discussion of Library Handbook

Do we need a Vice-President? The answer is yes, all agreed. Not mentioned in the by-laws but perhaps the process for such should begin.

Raising money- consider a silent auction, maybe related to the garden tour. People mentioned the basket sales of the past- much work involved.

Judy needs to find to find people for the AUDIT COMMITTEE

10. Miscellaneous but important- scheduling of use of common room at the libraries. There needs to be a break in-between activities so that groups can clear their whatevers or put away tables and chairs. Meetings from 1-3 should not be immediately followed by a meeting at 3, there should be a scheduled interval so that neither group is rushed in or out.