

FRIENDS OF THE CASA GRANDE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
VISTA GRANDE PUBLIC LIBRARY
December 8, 2025 @ 5:00 PM

JOIN VIA ZOOM: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87521281190?pwd=OvjDgiS6kzbDMnsk58elzjq2u5avMz.1>
Meeting ID: 875 2128 1190, Passcode: 389149

Present: Barb Brown, Richard Flechtner, Grace McMillin, Heather Ouellet, Michael Ouellet, Tina Packard, Sue Reeves (Zoom), Bev Reidy, Lisa Morris-Wilkey, Bonnie Warren, Amber Kent (Library)

Absent: Sue Eberle

1. Call to Order
Meeting called to order at 5:02 p.m.
2. Introductions and Welcome – Karen Perkinson and Karalee Lee were welcomed as guests.
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting – November 10, 2025
Move to approve by Grace. Seconded by Sue Reeves. Approved.
4. Treasurer's report - Bonnie
 - a. Chamber of Commerce Membership
It is time to renew the FOL's Chamber membership. The renewal is \$256. Amber said the city is a member/partner and she can forward any of our announcements. Chamber membership is a great way to get visibility but may not be worth the hefty renewal fee. Folks felt we may be better served with activities and memberships that reach community members. Richard moved that we do not renew. Second by Heather. Passed unanimously.
 - b. Treasurer's report
November treasurer's report accepted as submitted. Income included book sale earnings of \$224.79 and \$65.00 in memberships. November expenditures are not included in the report. Motion to accept by Bev. Seconded by Mary Jane. Passed.
 - c. Treasurer 2026
Bonnie would like someone to take over as treasurer. Tina encouraged folks to consider serving.
 - d. Budget for 2026
We need to finalize funding of library requests to the FOL for 2026. Tina will get back to Bonnie about GiveButter estimates for 2026.
5. Book Sales - Bonnie
 - a. Library book sales

The December 3-6 book sale was successful. Kudos to Bonnie. Revenue from cash and credit purchases came to \$946.98 with around \$120 in expenses and net revenue around \$826.98. Book bundle sales are going on at both libraries. Sales at Vista have increased.

b. Online book sales Friends PPL

Bonnie received a reply from Jason Peterson at Phoenix Public Library FOL book sale. He offered to give us 50% of earnings from our books that they sell. She plans to make a trip to take books.

6. Librarian's Report (Amber Kent)

Annual Report

The library is grateful to the Friends of the Library for supporting a wide range of projects in 2025, from summer programs and humanities speakers to digital books, educational kits, and more.

Digital titles purchased through our OverDrive Advantage account were checked out 11,774 times in 2025. Last year there was overwhelming demand for *The Women*. The library purchased nine eBook copies and three eAudiobooks, yet the holds still took quite a while. This is an example of how the Advantage account helps meet patron demand.

Top Circulating Titles and Number of Checkouts

- 1 *The Women: A Novel*, 221
- 2 *The Waiting*, 117
- 3 *Onyx Storm: (unabridged)*, 100
- 4 *The Women: A Novel (unabridged)*, 82
- 5 *A Calamity of Souls*, 79
- 6 *Now or Never*, 77
- 7 *In Too Deep*, 73
- 8 *To Die For*, 72
- 9 *We Solve Murders: A Novel*, 64
- 10 *Counting Miracles: A Novel*, 63

FOL funded librarian project funds were used for:

- Inserts for book pillows
- Halloween candy for the Main Library's StoryWalk event
- Craft supplies and snacks for teen programs
- Performers and humanities speakers
- Educational kits for checkout
- Acrylic shelf adapters for Vista Grande Library

New Circulation Desk

The design for the new circulation desk is finalized. It features an acrylic exterior with strips of magazine paper embedded inside to create bright pops of color. For donor recognition, Amber suggests using decorative tiles or engraved plates mounted either on the desk, on a shelving end panel, or on the wall above the new books display. The colorful desk provides several color options, but metal plates would also look great. Placement will determine size and therefore cost, but the project would not be costly, and Michael may even be able to print or engrave the plates in-house.

Main Library Exterior Painting.

The library has a quote from Cooper Painting for exterior painting of the Main Library. With new interior furniture and the circulation desk this is an ideal time to complete the exterior painting while the library is closed for the HVAC project. Amber suggested Friends sponsor this project which would allow the library to reopen looking fresh and fully updated, It would also be a visible contribution.

2026 Library Sponsorship Request to the FOL

- Main Library Exterior Paint \$17,500
- Overdrive Advantage \$10,000
- Librarian Projects (\$500 per Librarian) \$2,500
- Halloween Candy (Harvest Fest & Storywalk) \$500
- Total \$30,500

The board's only concern was with the \$17,500 request for painting. Members preferred that we instead put more funds into Overdrive Advantage for improved access to e-print and audio books. Tina will reach out to community businesses (e.g., Lucid, Abbott, and Walmart) to help fund the painting project. After discussion it was decided that we increase funding for Overdrive Advantage from \$10,000 to \$15,000. Amber will request that the city fund the painting as a building update. Michael and Heather asked about a mural outside the library. Installation artwork is coordinated by a grant administered by the city clerk. The board supported all other requests.

7. President's Report (Tina Packard)

- a. Membership Form revamp
The revised membership forms with envelopes have been ordered from International Minute Press (IMP) and Tina is picking them up.
- b. December Get-together
Sue Eberle is hosting a holiday potluck at her home on Dec 13. There is a food signup.
- c. The Christmas light parade was great.

8. Old Business

- a. By-laws approval. [BYLAWS 2025](#)
We will vote in January.

9. New Business

- a. School Literacy event at Mesquite
Lisa reported that the school literacy event held at Mesquite Elementary today was great. Adam Rex, an Arizona author and illustrator of youth fantasy books, read to students.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:05.