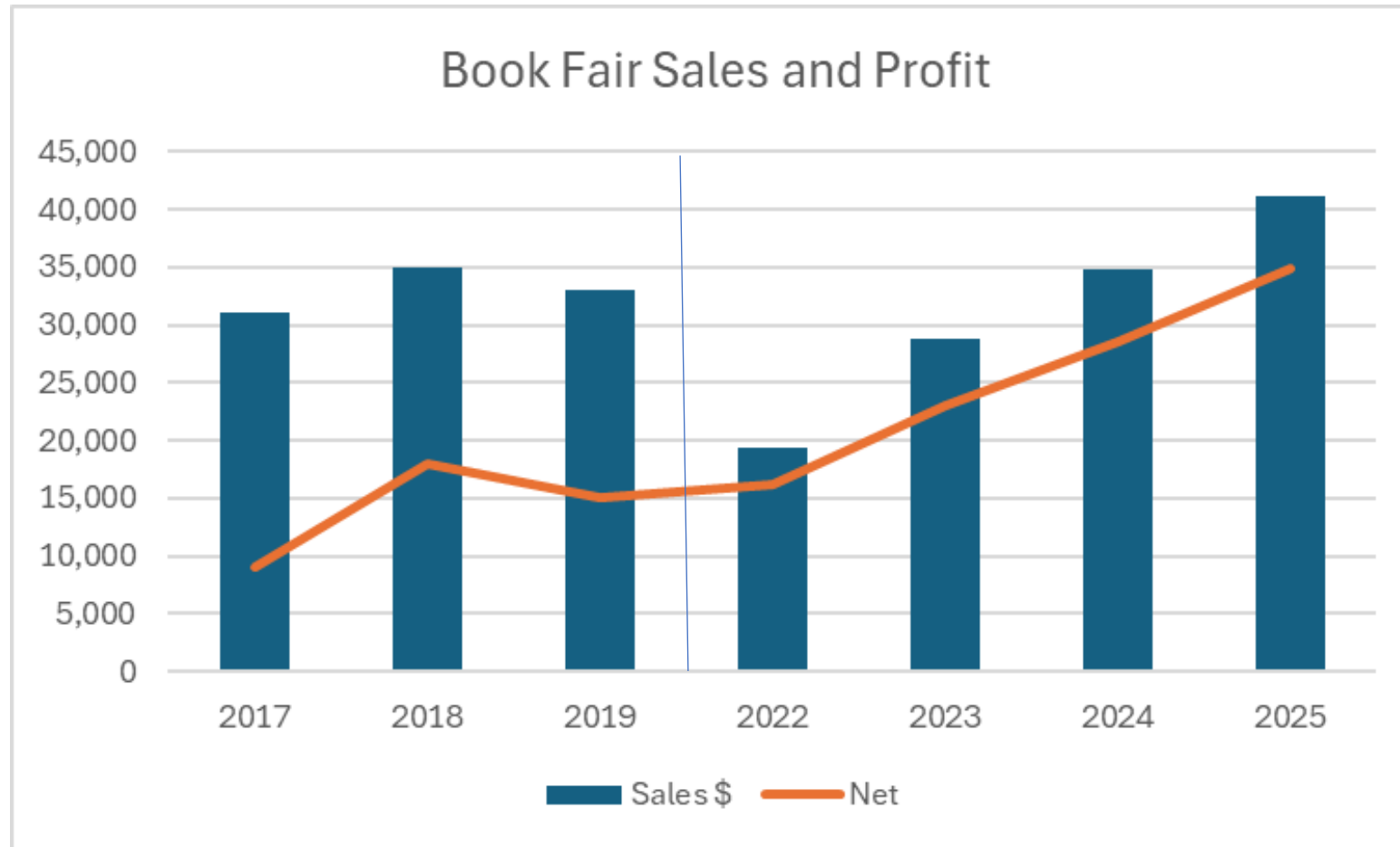


2025

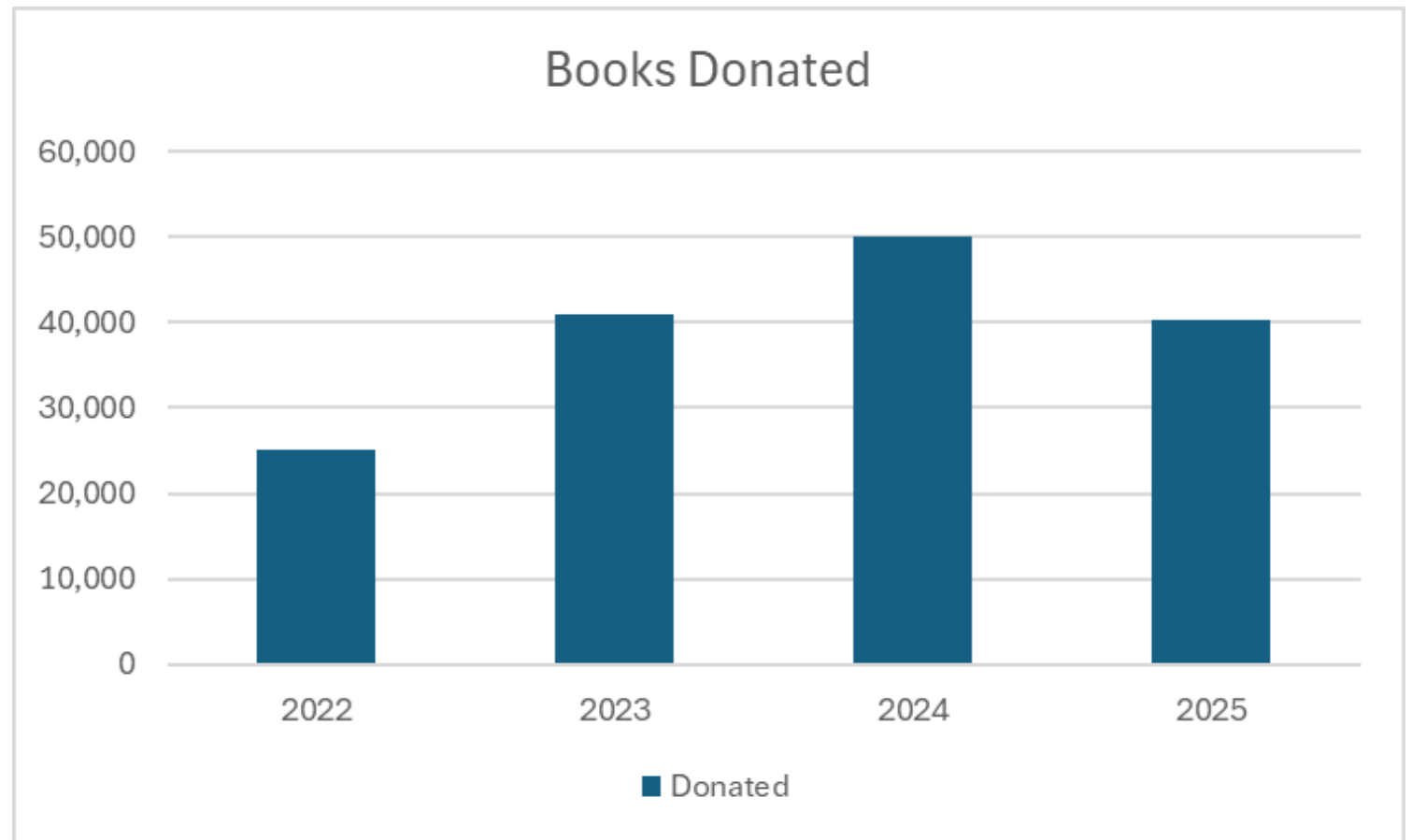
Book Fair Wrap-Up



New Record for Sales - \$41,000 and Profit - \$35,000



Donations
slowed to
2023 level



2024

Revenue: \$35,000

Net Profit: \$28,500

Friday was the biggest day

- 1,138 sales
- 25 sales over \$100
- Top sale was \$656

Saturday was steady all day long

- 887 sales

Sunday's \$10 Bag Sale keeps growing!

- 2023: 155 bags sold
- 2024: 207 bags sold

2025

Revenue: \$41,000

MERCH	\$2,568
DONATIONS	\$783
BOOKS	\$37,718

Net Profit: 35,000

Friday was the biggest day

- 1,246 sales
- 23 sales over \$100
- Top sale was \$659

Saturday was steady all day long

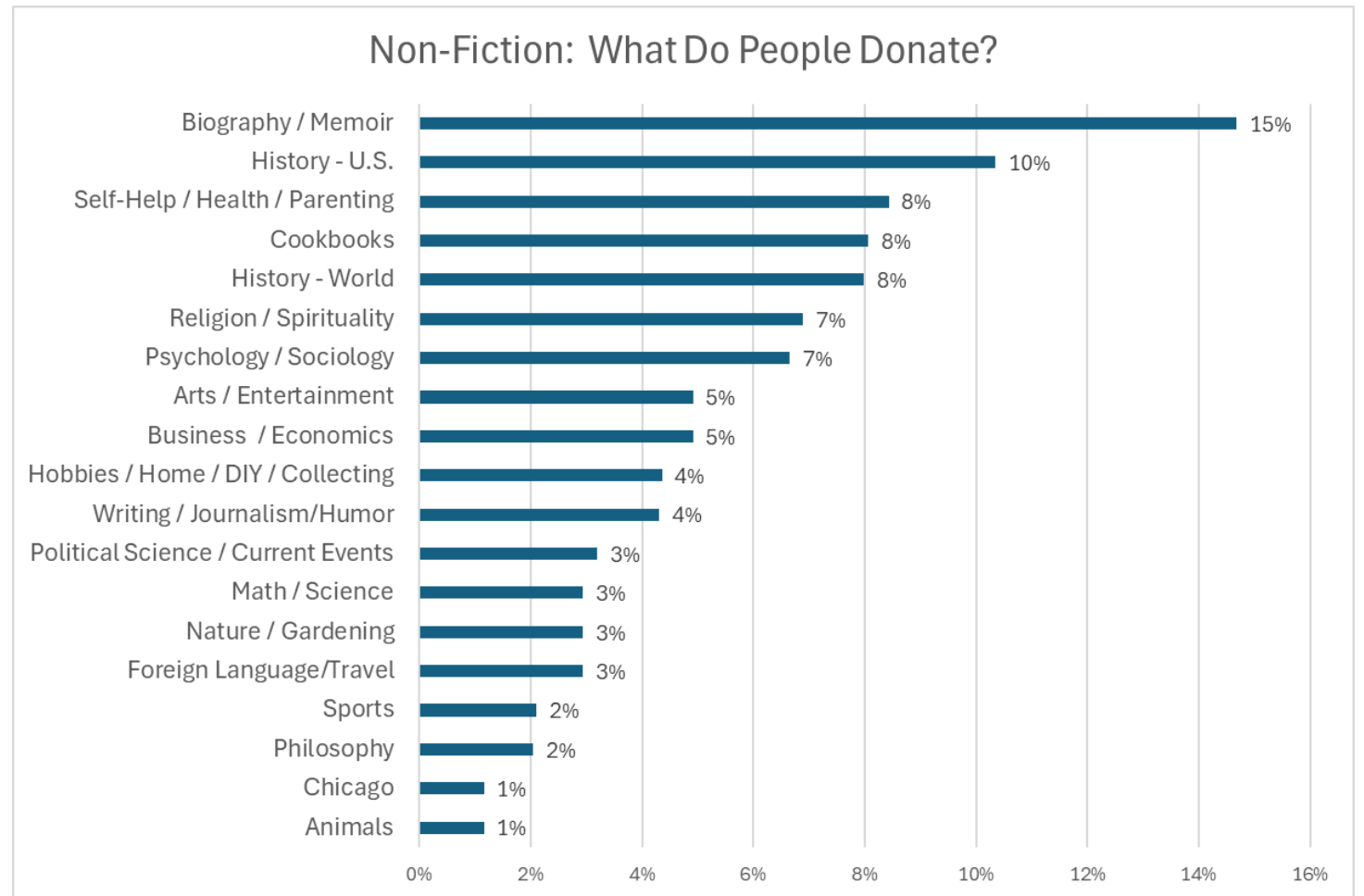
- 996 sales

Sunday's \$10 Bag Sale keeps growing!

- 2025: 235 bags sold

Non-Fiction: Donations and Sales by Category

- Biography / Memoir is our largest single category of donations (15%)
- History – U.S. and World combined – is slightly larger – 18%



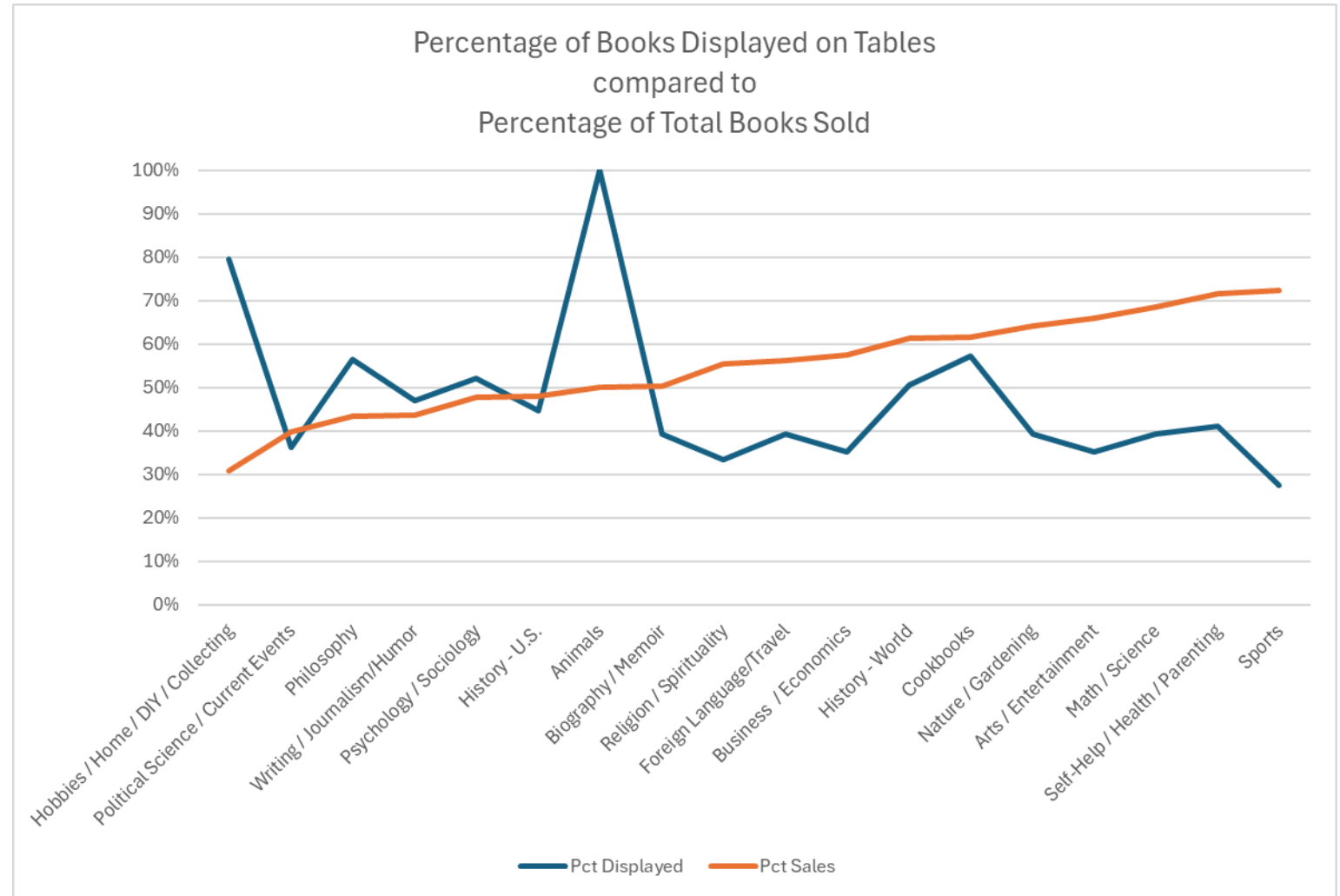
Non-Fiction: Donations and Sales by Category

- Books on Chicago and Sports have the highest percentage of sales
- Self-Help / Health / Parenting sold very well this year
- Hobbies have the lowest percentage of sales

Category	Pct Sold
Chicago	90%
Sports	73%
Self-Help / Health / Parenting	72%
Math / Science	69%
Arts / Entertainment	66%
Nature / Gardening	64%
Cookbooks	62%
History - World	61%
Business / Economics	58%
Foreign Language/Travel	56%
Religion / Spirituality	55%
Biography / Memoir	50%
Animals	50%
History - U.S.	48%
Psychology / Sociology	48%
Writing / Journalism/Humor	44%
Philosophy	44%
Political Science / Current Events	40%
Hobbies / Home / DIY / Collecting	31%

Should we give categories that sell well more table space and fewer under table boxes?

- Over 50% of non-fiction books start out the sale in a box under the table



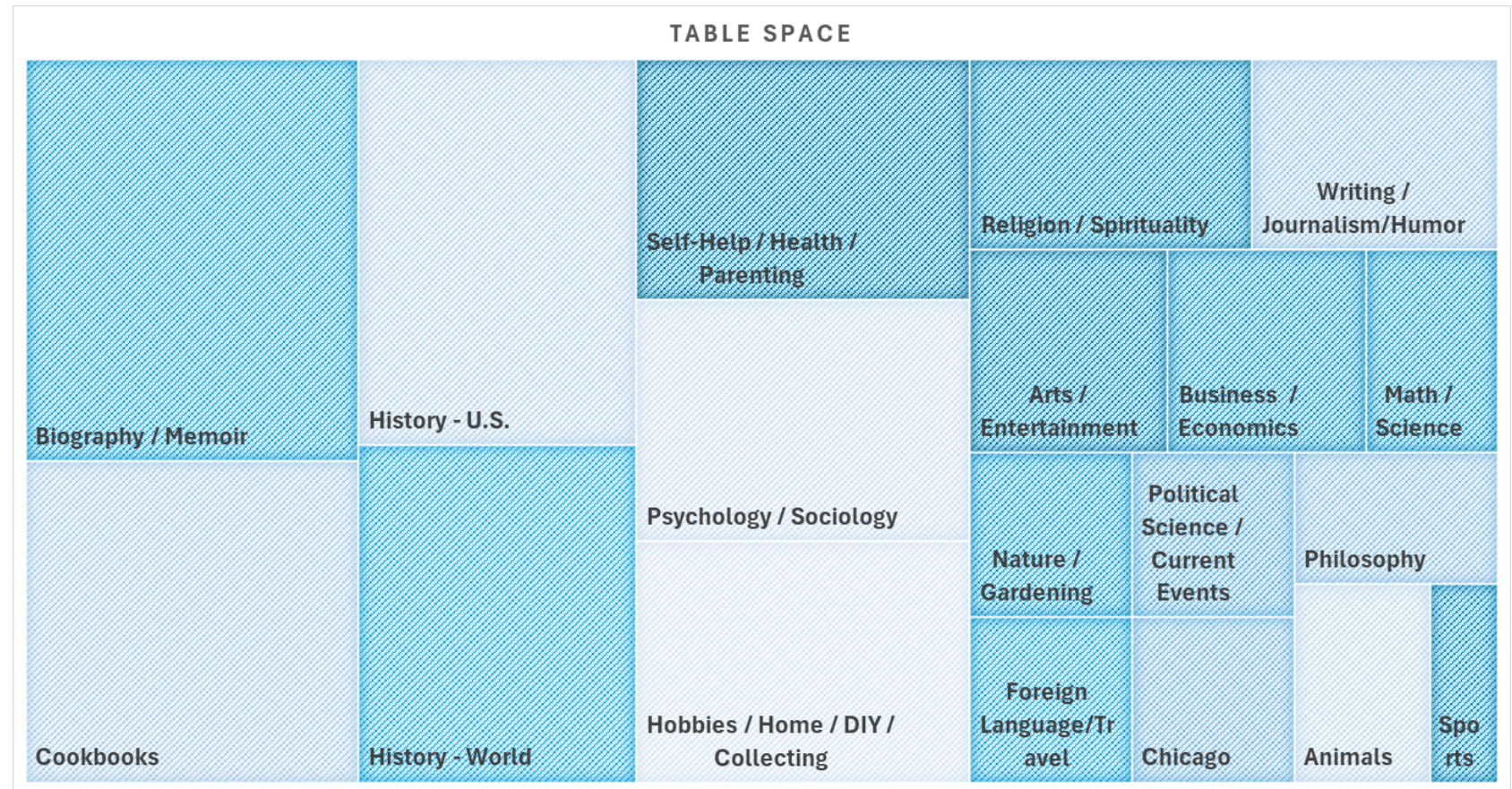
Optimizing the Table Layouts

- Needed more table space:

- Self-Help / Health / Parenting
- Arts / Entertainment
- Religion / Spirituality
- Sports

- Should have had less table space:

- Hobbies / Home / DIY / Collecting
- Psychology / Sociology
- Animals
- History - U.S.



- Hobbies / Home / DIY / Collecting - 7.5% of the table space, but only 2.5% of the sales



New in 2025

Fiction – used two areas on the 3rd floor

thank you!

142
Volunteers,
Over 1700
hours

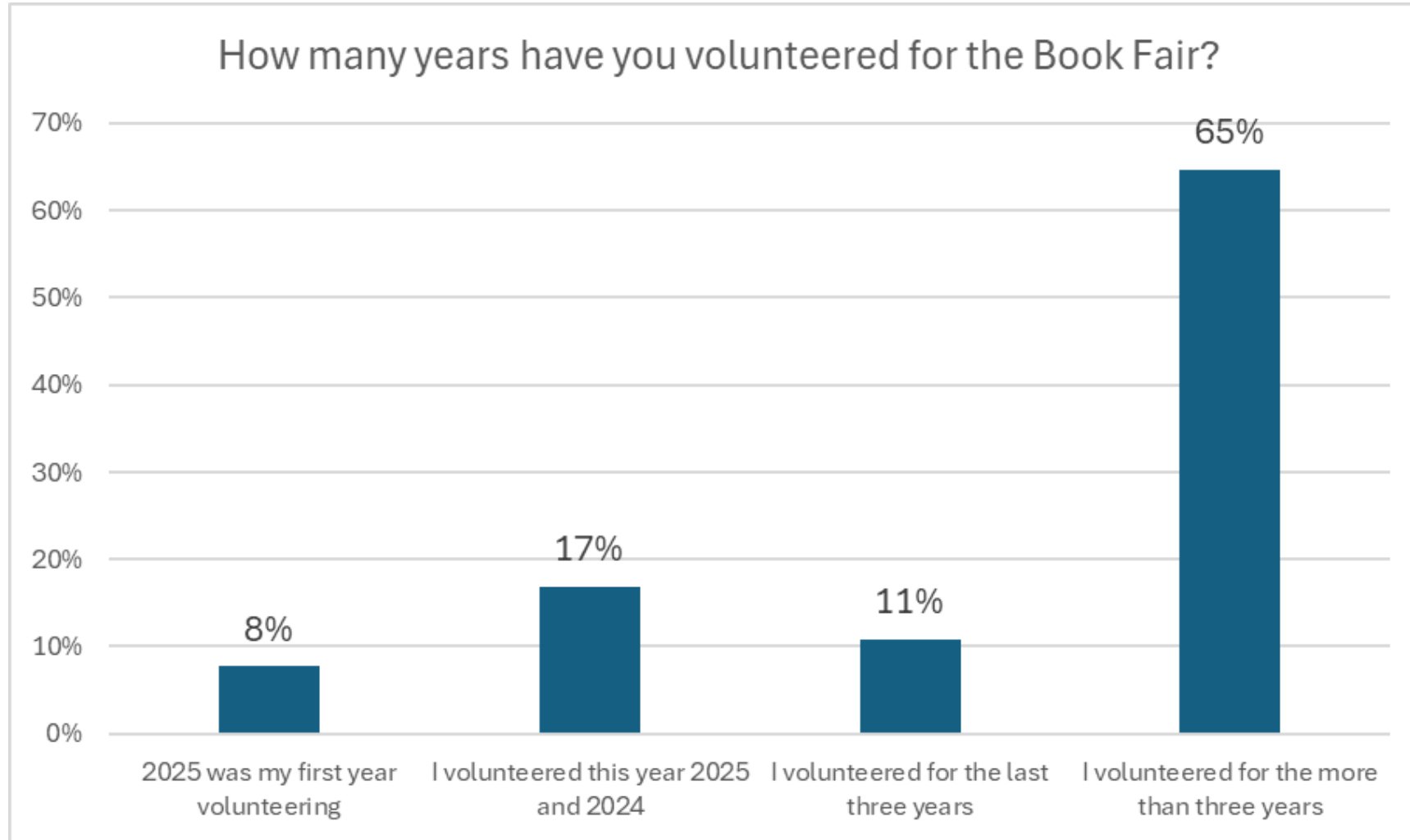


Volunteer Survey Highlights

- 65 responders
- 97% plan to volunteer next year
- 92% said that the online sign-up process worked well (same as last year's survey)

- **Book Selection:** Volunteers loved the variety and volume of books, especially the opportunity to discover rare or nostalgic titles.
- **Community Engagement:** The event was widely appreciated for fostering camaraderie among volunteers and bringing the community together.
- **Volunteer Experience:** Many enjoyed the sorting process, working with others, and the overall spirit of the event.
- **Better World Books Partnership:** Valued for its role in recycling and extending the life of books.
- **Children's Section:** Positive feedback on the inclusion of Spanish-language books and suggestions to make the area more prominent

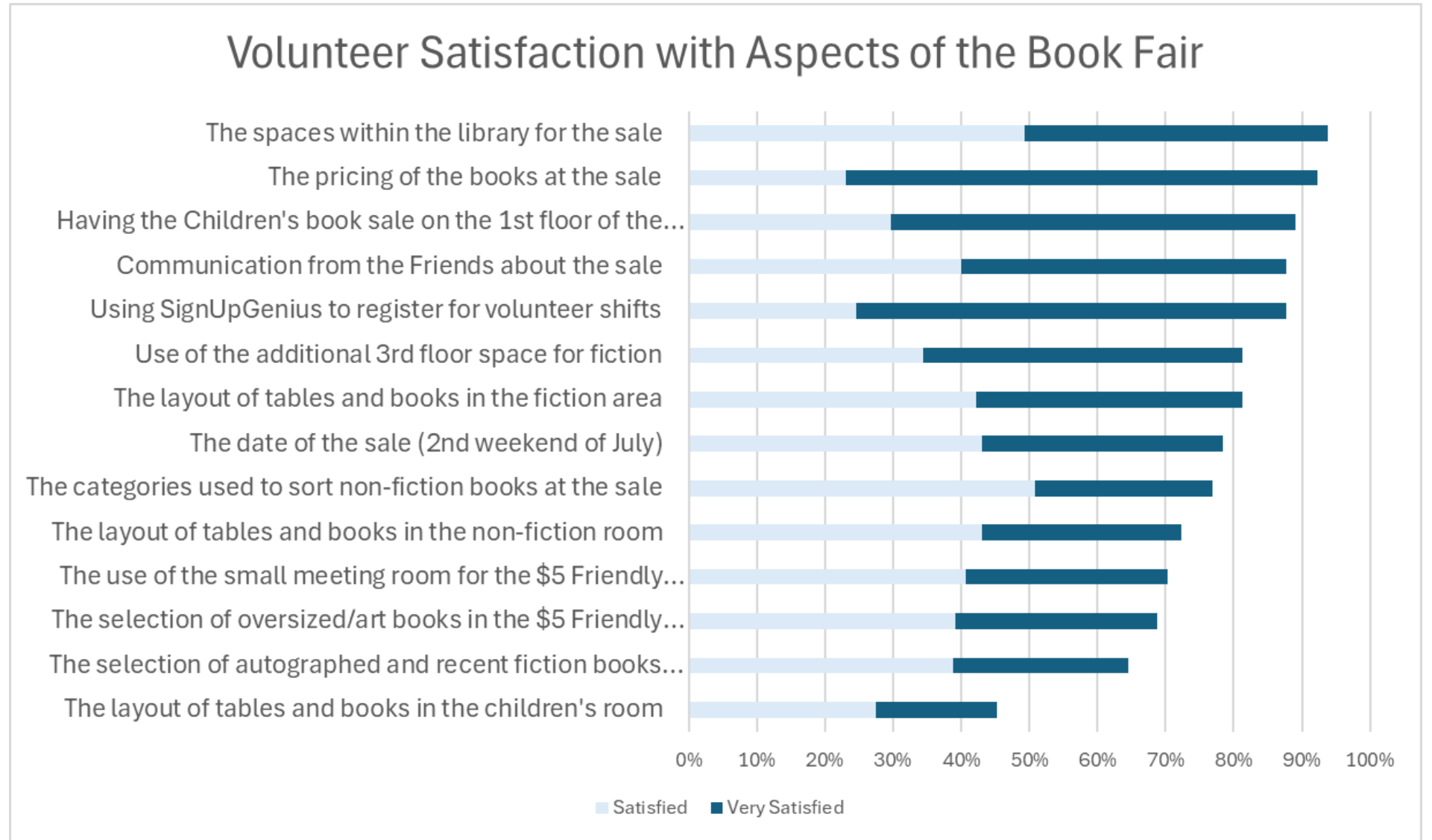
65% of Volunteers have been involved for more than 3 years



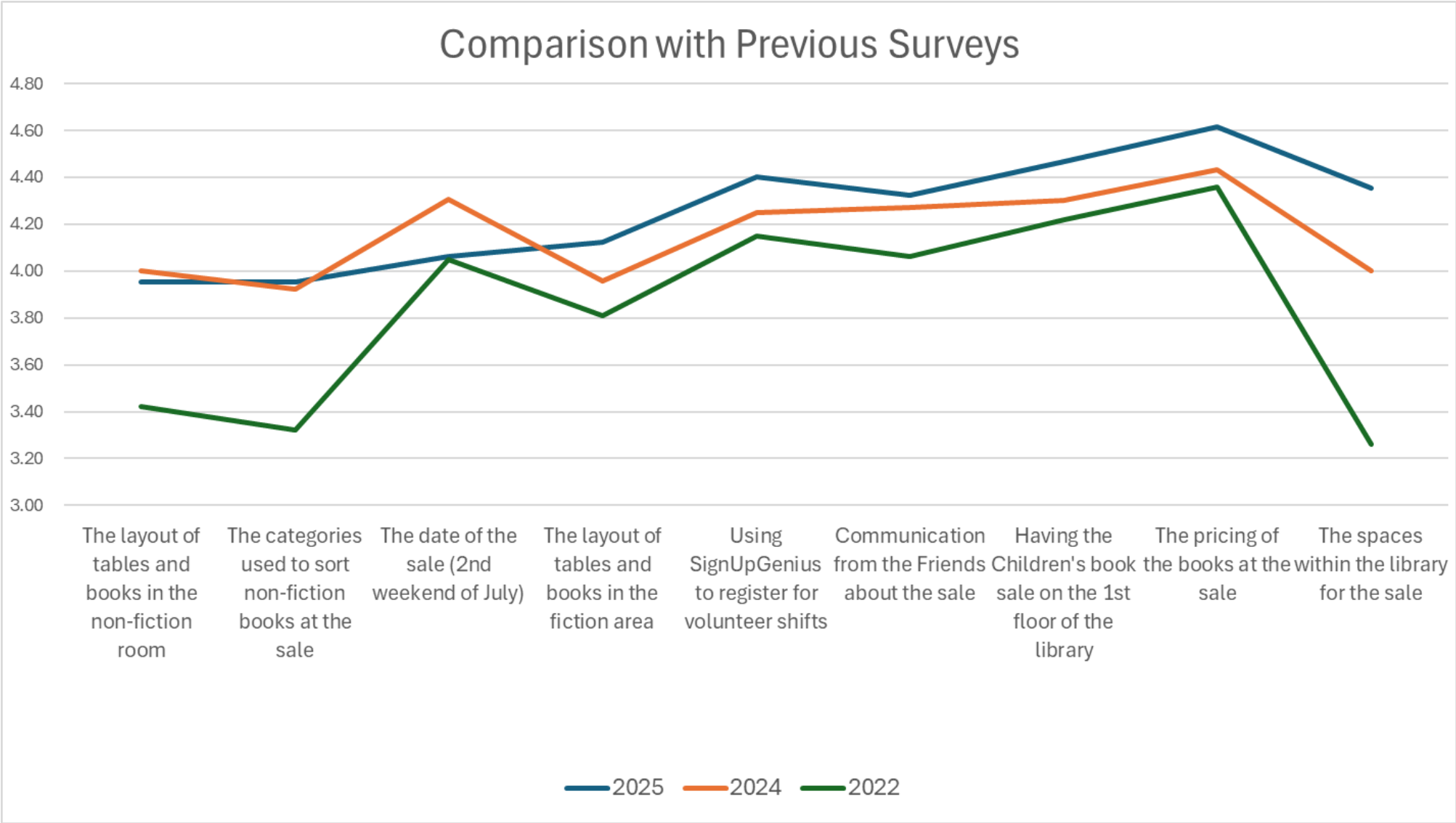
- Last year, 18% of the volunteers were new – this year its 8%

Library Spaces and Pricing are highlights

- Children's
Layout: 50%
of volunteers
unsure about
the layout of
books and
tables, but
89% are
satisfied or
very satisfied
with the 1st
floor location

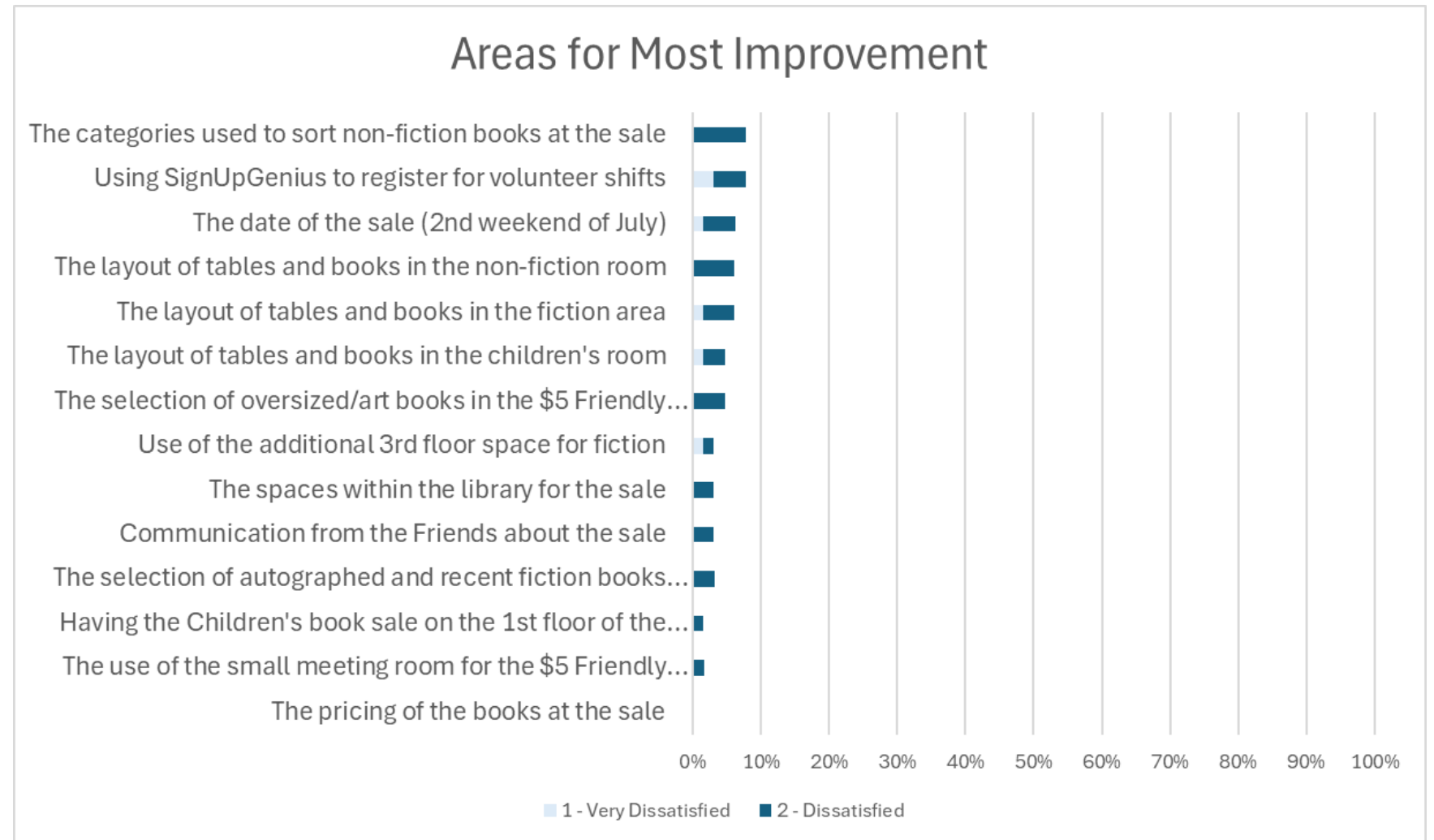


Volunteer Satisfaction is up over 2022 and 2024 in almost all areas

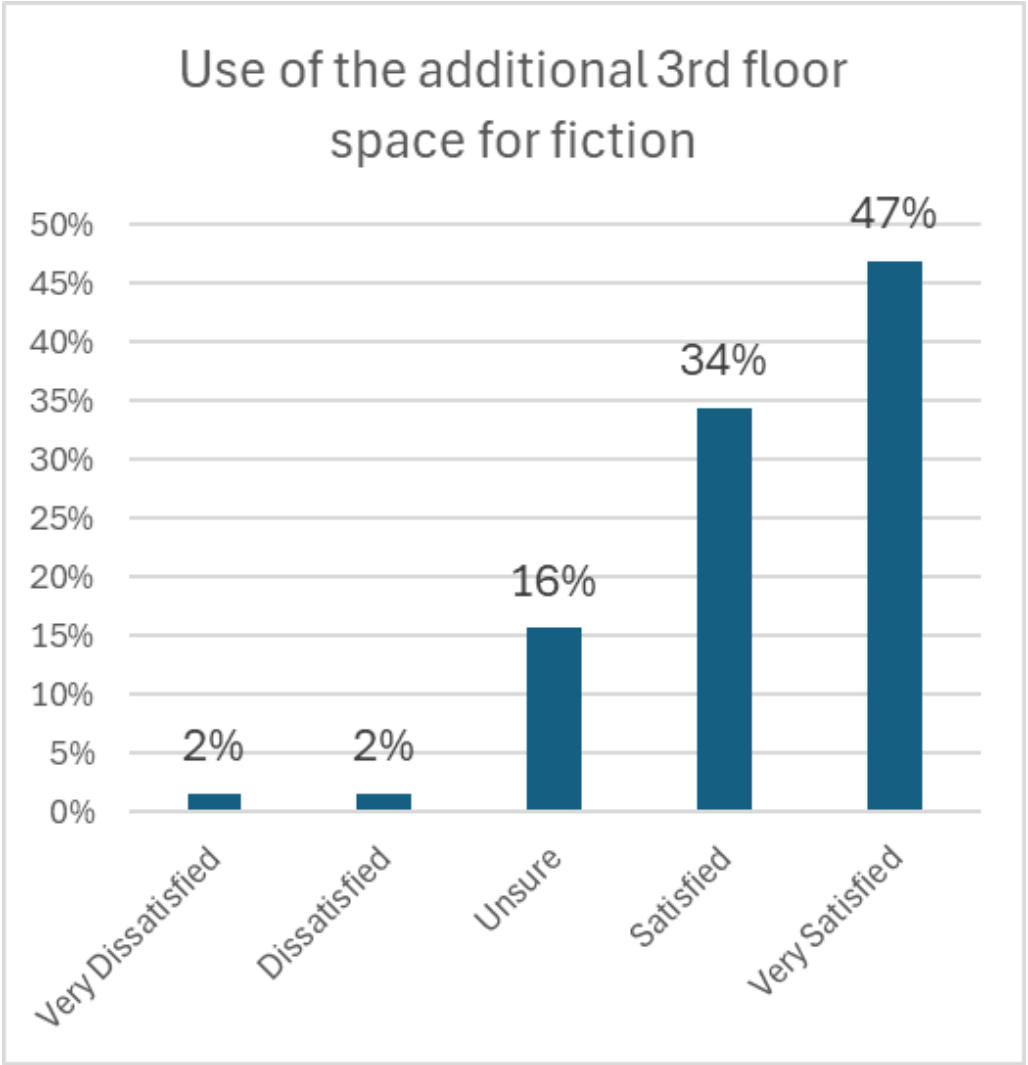
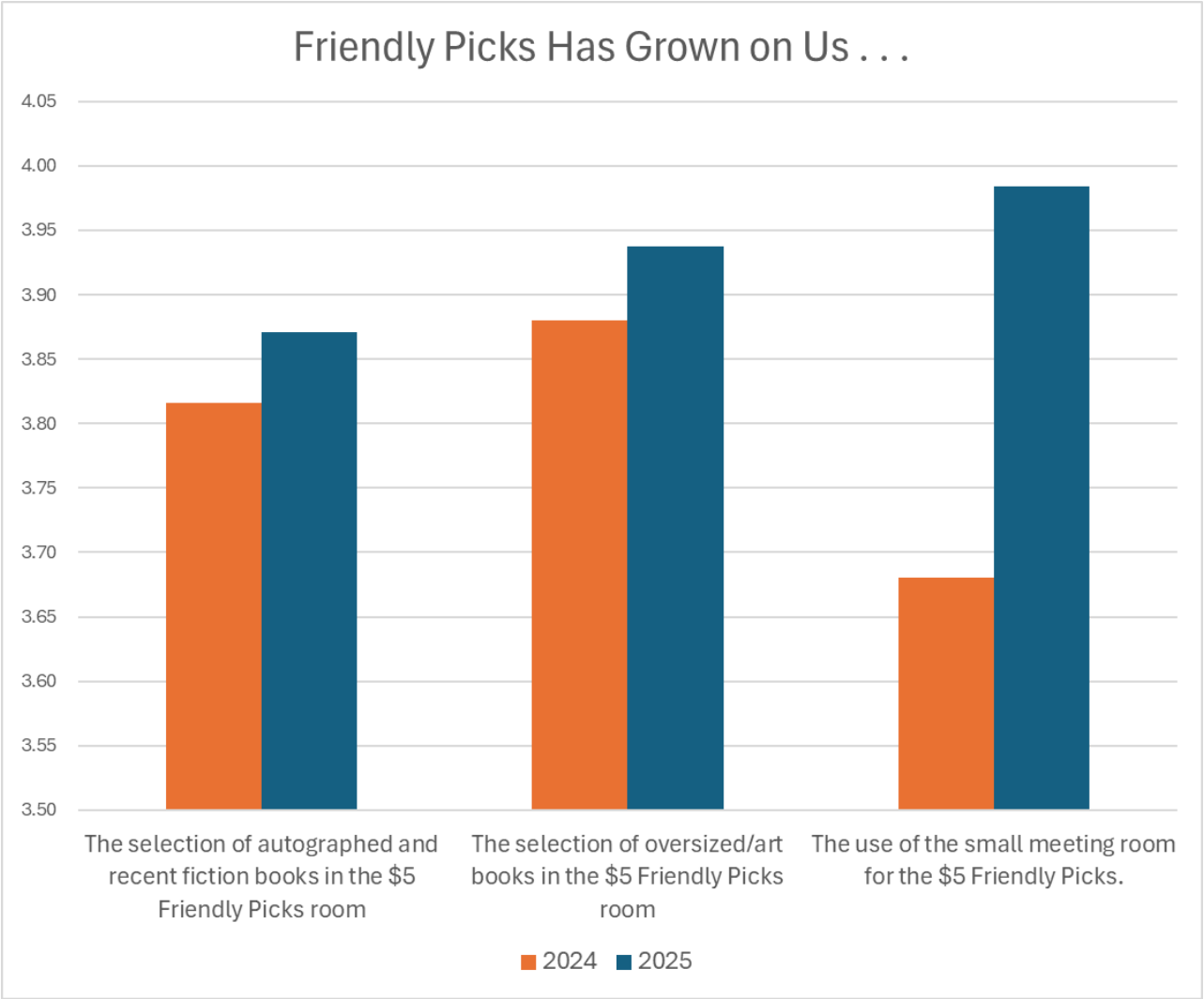


Areas where volunteers are dissatisfied are minimal

- 8% are dissatisfied with the non-fiction sorting categories, or with using SignUpGenius



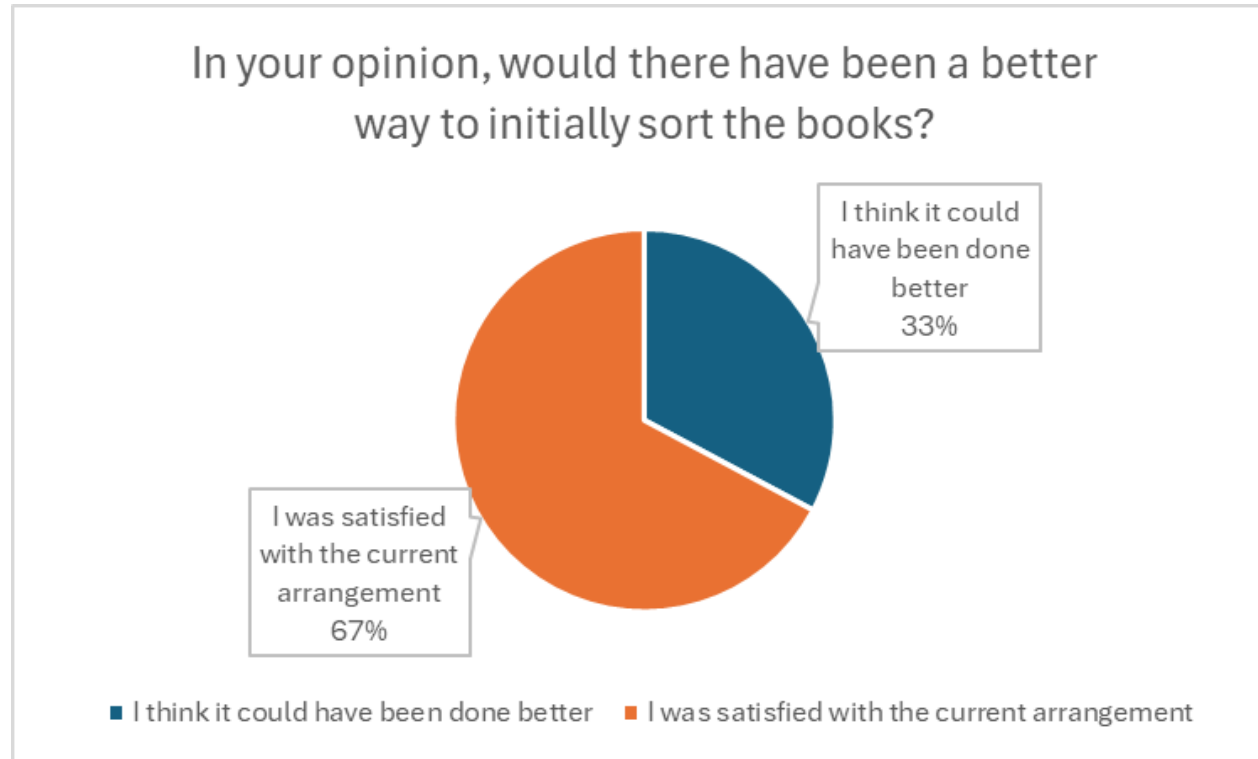
Use of new library areas takes some adjustment



What can we do better?

Sorting Process	More categories, more space, keep more of the older books, pass more of the older books to BWB, more of this section, less of that section, children's/YA is hard
Volunteer Coordination	Better communication and scheduling, more volunteer opportunities early in the sale, clearer instructions
Signage & Navigation	Clearer signs for sections and checkout; splitting fiction was confusing
Check-out	Better line management, more check-out stations
Promotion & Outreach	More advertising
Volunteer Recognition	More visible appreciation for volunteers

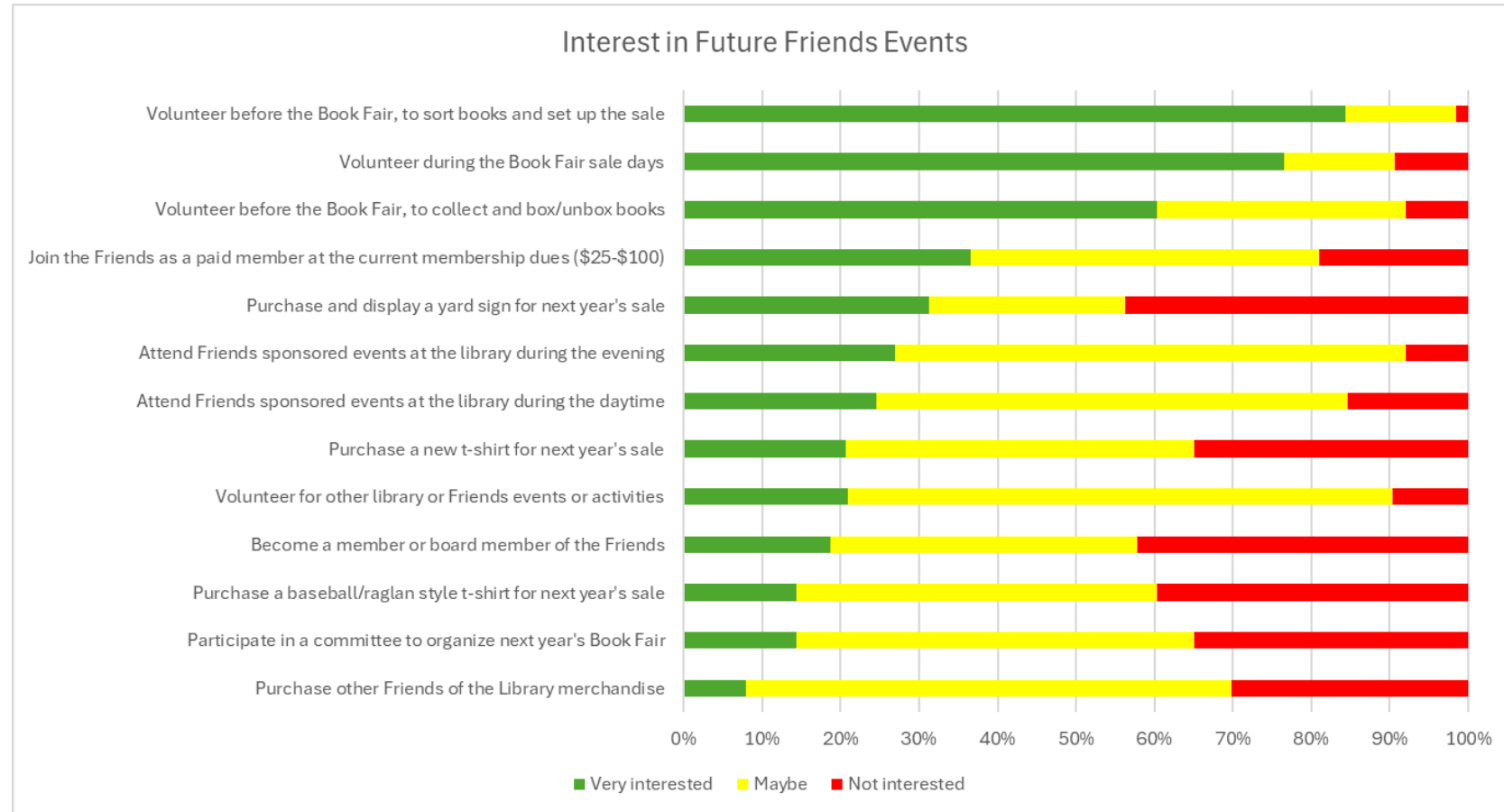
Still a Hot Topic: When, Where and How do we sort the books?



- This year and last year, we sorted the books by floor initially (Fiction / Non-Fiction / Childrens)
 - 33% think there is a better way
 - 21% of survey responders are in favor of sorting by more categories initially
- Opinions are mixed on whether too many or too few books are sent to Better World Books
- Last year, 25% thought there was a better way, and 73% were satisfied with this system

What is of interest for the future?

Most volunteers are planning to volunteer at the book fair again in the future, but interest in purchasing Friends merchandise or organizing the book fair is more selective





**Friends ^{of the} Oak Park
PUBLIC LIBRARY**