

Wissahickon Valley Public Library – Ambler Branch  
**Friends of the Ambler Library Annual Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, January 26, 2021– 5:30 p.m.**  
\*Virtual Meeting via Zoom\*

Present: Anne Hall, Rakhee Lala, Bill Lion, Lindsey Lubow, Sally Martin, David Morgan, Veronica Tsang  
Glenda Radine, Susan Zeager, Elizabeth Kozakowski, Jean Bellavance

*Anne Hall, WVPL Ambler Branch Library Manager & Librarian welcomed everyone to the meeting. Anne reviewed the purpose of the Ambler Library Friends is to support the educational programs, help with fundraising and promote the Library in the community.*

- I. Treasurer's Report
  - A. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic we have had no fundraisers in 2020. The income we did receive was from a few used book sales and our annual membership appeal letter.
  - B. The Ambler Friends supported the WVPL Ambler Branch Library renovation project with a donation of \$15,000 in 2019.
  - C. We began 2020 with a bank balance of \$3642. We ended the year 2020 with a bank balance of \$4200. We hold savings and checking accounts at Ambler Savings Bank.
    - a. 2020 Income: \$1491
      - i. Memberships (15) - \$1345 donated (down from 2019)
      - ii. Used Book Sales - \$69.00
      - iii. Bank Interest
      - iv. Amazon Smile Program
      - v. Different sources - \$40.00
    - b. 2020 Expenses
      - i. Library programs - \$650 – All programs have been well received and attended virtually.
      - ii. Postage for newsletters
      - iii. We are a member of PA Citizens for Better Libraries - \$125 annual membership  
\*\*New address: Pa Citizens for Better Libraries (PCBL),  
P.O. Box 12822, Pittsburgh, PA 15241
- II. Report from Anne Hall, WVPL Ambler Branch Manager & Librarian
  - A. Anne joined the meeting virtually from the beautiful renovated and expanded Community Room.
  - B. 2020 was a challenging year. We held our groundbreaking for the renovation of the WVPL Ambler Branch Library on January 10, 2020. Even though the pandemic shut down most everything for much of the year, the renovation was completed in September and we received occupancy in October 2020.
  - C. The newly renovated WVPL Ambler Branch Library re-opened on November 2, 2020 allowing 10 people inside at one time! We were open for 3 weeks, and then had to shut down again. We continued to serve the community with contactless pick-up. We offered concierge services in the form of "Grab & Go" book bags. We received great feedback for this service.
  - D. The Friends have their own work room with a standing desk for volunteers to work at.
  - E. Thank you to the Ambler Library Friends for their donation of \$15,000 in 2019. A plaque will be placed in the Computer Center in February 2021 acknowledging the donation.
  - F. We will have a "Donor Tree" with leaves recognizing donors to the capital campaign. Due to the restrictions of COVID-19, we cannot have a large gathering to celebrate the completion of the renovation. Instead, for donors who gave significant amounts to support this project, we will host small gatherings to tour the library.
  - G. The Friends have supported Virtual programs that have been offered once a month. These programs have been well received. A variety of programs have been presented from the Mutter Museum on the 1918 Influenza, Dr. Steve from the Penn Museum presenting a program on Caves, a program from the American Revolutionary War Museum, etc. Anne Hall may request money for programming the end of March 2021.
  - H. The Library is beautiful! We're grateful for the newly renovated space...the Children's Room, Community Room, Computer Center.

III. Nominations and Elections  
President: David Morgan  
Treasurer: Veronica Tsang  
Corresponding Secretary: Lindsey Lubow  
Recording Secretary: Sally Martin  
Members at large: Rakhee Lala and Bill Lion

- IV. Q & A
- A. Anyone is welcome to join the Friends to help with different events without holding a position.
  - B. Plant Ambler will help with the new landscaping around the building.
  - C. Cost of a virtual program and speaker – approximately \$150.00. Children's programs are more expensive.
  - D. A special thank you to Bill Lion for serving as Treasurer for over 8 years and Rakhee Lala, for serving as Corresponding Secretary. We thank you for your service in these positions and are happy to have you remain on the Board participating as Members-at-Large.
  - E. We have 145 members on the roster to receive the newsletter, etc. Fewer are giving donations.
  - F. The best fundraiser is through donations. We need to continue to promote and advocate for the library.

Meeting Adjourned

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Sally Martin*