

Friends of the West Haven Library – Meeting Minutes: 6/2/20

In attendance: Colleen Bailie, Catherine Bushman, Alan Olenick, Pat Donnelly, Sue Bonci, Patti GaNun, Bill Heffernan, Patti Fusco, Ben Martin, Grace Billings, Maureen Ulsamer, Peter Cappuccio, Angela Invernale

- Membership Report: \$1407; 51 active members since July 2019
- Director's Report: Library has been closed since March 13th; a PPP loan was obtained to keep staff on payroll and working during the pandemic. A huge shifting project is taking place to switch the fiction and non-fiction sections in the adult circulation dept. Basement and first floor being repainted. LED lights were installed which will result in saving money. Colleen is communicating and coordinating with other libraries about how to go about Phase 1 of reopening. All programs will be virtual for the foreseeable future. City Council cut our budget by \$200,000 for the next fiscal year. The battle over the Piantino branch marches on—our bid was rejected by City Council despite being higher than the developer's bid. Maria, head of Children's Dept. has a contact from Our Lady of Victory church who donated a lot of new furniture and toys. Library card signups have increased. Staff is on a rotating schedule to limit the number of people in the building at a time. Digital resource Kanopy has had over 1000 visits and 300 downloads in the first month.
- Treasurer's Report: No change to the account yet since pandemics tend to be inconvenient. The hope is to add Bill to the account first, followed by Ben.
- Adult programming continues virtually with book and movies talks, as well as Tech Help sessions.
- New checks for Friends: Colleen will check if they've been delivered to the library. Pat will check the account balance but believes there is approximately \$2716. We still have a small invoice from the Elm City Girls' Choir event; Friends approved \$186.48 to WHHS and the choir.
- Book sale: Can we make it happen? Virtually, outdoors, or in the parking lot?
- ---I missed a few minutes of conversation here due to internet issues---
- Book donations will not be accepted until library reopens.
- Pat will contact Child and Family Guidance Center about collecting children's books we have and do not want.
- Passes: What should be renewed? Beardsley opens June 4th. We should think on it and see where we are next month.
- Funding Request: Friends approve \$1032.69 for the Children's Summer Reading program. Expenses include raffle prizes for summer reading participants and 100 books to give away to each other the three age groups (K-2, 1-5, and 9-12). Friends also approved reallocating the previously approved \$550 (for performer Al DeCant) to other expenses (crafts and supplies for Summer Survival Kits for kids to take home and keep).

Next meeting: July 7th at 6:00pm via Zoom