**Friends of the West Haven Library Meeting Minutes (5-4-2021)**

In attendance: Colleen Bailie, Alan Olenick, Catherine Bushman, Bill Heffernan, Ben Martin, Kym Powe, Pat Donnelly, Maureen Ulsamer, Patti GaNun, Peter Cappucia, Sue Bonci, Jane Whelan, Angela Invernale

**Directors report:** We have increased our hours at Ora Mason to Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10:00 to 5:00 and a half day 10 to 2:00pm Friday. The available full-time positions have been filled, Sarah Pettinger as a full-time reference assistant and Angela Invernale as our full-time circulation assistant. We have been maintaining all COVID guidelines, and are considering no longer requiring appointments in all departments except for Reference. We are adding more chairs but still no indoor programming as of yet. Small, limited groups could potentially meet in person. Plans for an Allingtown Branch are coming along slowly but surely. We will also be hosting a scavenger hunt around town to celebrate the centennial. Funding request for the summer reading program approved for $2,100.

**Membership report:** total of $116 members since July 1st 2020, $1148.67

**Treasurer's report:** Read and approved, no changes in March

West Haven library has a spot on the new West Haven Monopoly game that is being sold by the Rotary Club.

**Fundraisers:** another paint night, time to start thinking about the book sale, Facebook birthday fundraisers, and when things open up a bit more, a trivia night and/or a murder mystery night

**Library assessment:** The library assessment yielded 140 pages of feedback that is not yet been made public. Some highlights: many issues we were already aware of and working on improving such as collection diversity and turnover as well as some cosmetic upgrades (sprucing up the lobby for one). However, residents are happy with staff and overall understand we are limited by our budget from the city. We have proven to be extremely efficient with our expenses per capita at about 2/3 of that of similar libraries. It was also shown that given the demographics and geography of the town, 3 library branches are needed to best serve the community. Improvement can be made in Bookmobile outreach and program marketing. To better staff communication, monthly department meetings will be held.

**Funding Requests:**

$2100 Summer Reading Request: APPROVED

$128.90 Plastic Cases for Book/Movie Bundles: APPROVED

$791 Heavy Duty Picnic Table: APPROVED