

Brownsburg Public Library February 22, 2021
Friends of the Library Board Meeting

Rhonda Nelson, President, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Cari Palma, Lara Boulton, Linda Peterson-Roe, Mary Baechle, and Rhonda Nelson

Absent:

Staff: Denise Robinson and Amie Scott

Other:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mary Baechle moved approval of the November Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Linda Peterson-Roe and carried unanimously.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS

The board reviewed correspondence and no action was necessary.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Denise reviewed the financials for November, December, and January with the board.

2021 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

We mailed 862 letters, and of that, we wound up sending solicitations to 782 new members. We're up to 92 members and 43 of them are brand new. Overall we saw a 11% direct mail return rate. Our average gift was \$42.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Denise shared some photographs from 2020 as she reviewed programs offered last year. These programs are made possible through generous funding from the Friends. We offered 139 programs in the first three months of 2020 with over 2,000 attendees. All programs since March 16 have been offered virtually. We've offered 78 live virtual programs. We had 329 recorded programs with 1,794 views on these programs. It was financially a tough year for summer reading with a shortfall of sponsors, but thanks to the Friends we were able to get back in the black again. Our summer reading numbers were also down. It was a tough year, but we're looking forward to this year's program and have our annual kickoff planned for June 7, 2021. Staff have been very busy creating "take and make" programs in addition to the virtual offerings throughout 2020.

In supplies, we spent about the same amount in 2020 as we did in 2019. Money that would've been spent in 2019 on in-person programming shifted to the "take and make" items.

Financially, we were in the red for 2020, but part of that was our "welcome back" celebration which did not have as large of a turn out as expected. Our online sales helped offset our closure of the Library Shop (March – July). The Holiday Shop made \$1,805.26 in December with \$36 in expenditures. We are looking to take the Holiday Shop in a new direction in 2021 with local handmade items. We did end the year with over \$40K in the bank for the Friends.

The building renovation is officially complete. The remainder of this year is the warranty phase. The building is being used and are smaller study rooms are almost always occupied. People are finding their niches throughout the building.

COVID continues to be a challenge and safety has been the priority for staff and public throughout the year. We've tried to incrementally build back up to "normal" services and offerings again.

Denise reviewed our Financials from November, December, and January.

Denise has requested that we revive our Brick Paver Walking Path fundraiser. We've had enough requests that she feels like it merits another campaign run.

We enjoyed our Christmas decorations this year, but have decided for this year to just go with the one large tree through Christmas Décor and have purchased two 7' trees for Children's that we'll place ourselves along with wreaths and garland.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

May 11, 2021 @ 7 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Baeche
Secretary