

The Friends of Upper Dublin Public Library

**Monthly Meeting of Friends Board Members
Virtual meeting conducted using Zoom
April 8, 2021**

Name	Present in Person	Not Present	Present by Remote Communication
Friends Board Members			
Robert Stutz, President			x
Richard Haggard, V. President			x
Jo-Ann Hunt, Treasurer			x
Jan Frohner, Membership Chair			x
Cathy Murphy, Secretary			x
Alicia Fortunato			x
Bryan Gillespie			x
Sunny Gross		x	
Jules Mermelstein		x	
Karen Preston			x
Susan Tofani			x
Cheri Fiory, Library Director (nonvoting member)			x

Others Present from Library Staff and others in virtual attendance: Harvey Gold, Gary Fisher, Mark Horowitz, Rosemarie Schmalbach, Suanne Strauss, Wendy Rader, Joan Ludwig, John Hunt, Karen Petkun, Sandra Krieg, Ellen Brown, Diana Gribling, C. Clancy, Maria Windhaus, Lynn Rishe, Denise Turner, M. Ewart, Deborah Kindt, Andrea Merrick, Robert Pesavento, Melinda Spink, Natalie Hartenbaum, Julie Liggett, Linda Breckenridge, Linda Needleman, Margaret Hunter, Laura and Alan Libove, Robert Becker, John Nichols, Paul Leonard, Hilary Heckman.

A meeting at which a quorum of the Friends Membership was present was held and called to order at 1:00pm.

The Friends of Upper Dublin Public Library

Monthly Meeting of Friends Board Members

Virtual meeting conducted using Zoom

April 8, 2021

Welcome: Friends President Robert Stutz welcomed all attendees to this year's annual meeting and introduced all members of the Friends Board. He also thanked Jen Roberts for her assistance providing the necessary technology support for this meeting, and noted for all attendees that the meeting was being recorded.

Minutes Approval for the March 2021 monthly meeting: Cathy Murphy, Friends Secretary, had previously provided the proposed Minutes of the February 2021 meeting to the Friends Board members. On motion, these minutes were unanimously approved without changes. A copy of the final minutes will be forwarded to Karen Preston and Connie Pigliacelli for posting and filing.

Treasurer's Report and Membership Report: Jo-Ann Hunt presented her monthly report, reviewing the expenses and income of the Friends of UDPL for the preceding month. She advised that there was no income for the previous month. She also explained that the Admin/Operating expenses in the previous month were related to costs associated with postage/ mailing of our income tax return, and filing fees to the Commonwealth of PA for required state forms. Total expenses for all categories of Friends spending in the prior month were \$2,783.37, with Adult and Children's Programs comprising the majority of these expenses. At this time, Jo-Ann reported that the Friends operating funds total \$95,955.33. Jo-Ann also provided a review of the Capital Campaign funds resulting from the fundraising activities related to the UDPL's new location at 520 Virginia Drive. She informed the attendees that the total funds and pledges for the Capital Campaign as of this month's report is \$658,873.94.

Membership Update: Jan advised that no new members joined the Friends in the past month. She noted that the Friends extended the memberships of the 283 Friends in 2020 and that 186 of these members have instead directed their contributions to the Capital Campaign. Jan expressed the Board's request that Friends of UDPL members who have not yet done so will contribute to the ongoing Capital Campaign in light of the Board's extension of their memberships for this year.

Old Business

New Library and related updates: Cheri Fiory welcomed the guests in attendance at this year's Annual Meeting. She provided a comprehensive report on the Library's efforts to not only efficiently and effectively relocate to 520 VA Drive, but also assure that the vision of the Library's future to "connect people and ideas" remained the focus of the library staff despite the challenges faced this year. In particular, she noted that the library launched digital options for UDPL patrons within 2 weeks of the Covid

The Friends of Upper Dublin Public Library

Monthly Meeting of Friends Board Members

Virtual meeting conducted using Zoom

April 8, 2021

shutdown. Using a detailed slide show, she informed attendees of several highly successful strategies the Library staff promptly implemented to creatively serve the community. As a result, the library broke its previous record for number of e-books loaned, developed highly effective virtual programs for all ages of patrons and created a very popular book drop off/pick up system. Library Staff also used the STEAM lab resources to print shields and masks for Covid healthcare workers to contribute to health of our community. Through this, the staff also successfully completed the relocation of library materials and equipment in July. Director Fiory also told the group that they are now preparing to open more spaces for use by the public when that can be accomplished safely. The Library staff is looking forward the future when there are less restrictions due to Covid, and more people can collaborate in the new Bryan and Audrey Gillespie Learning Commons, the Alan and Andrea Gnessin Children's Library, the study rooms, auditorium and other inviting spaces. Director Fiory closed by strongly encouraging everyone to consider contributing to the Capital Campaign that is ongoing. She then introduced Susan Tofani, current Friends Board member, to explain in more detail the numerous ways that people can support and participate in the operation of the UDPL.

Susan then explained to the attendees the many ways that people can meaningfully contribute to and participate in the continued success of UDPL. These include becoming a "Friends member" as well as considering joining the Friends Board. She explained the various events and programs that the Friends pay for each year using contributions to the Friends, including Summer Reading, the museum pass program, as well as Children's and Adult Programs throughout the year. She also noted the ongoing need for contributions to the 520 VA Drive Capital Campaign. Susan also described the library volunteer opportunities, e.g., helping with the Jewelry Sale, attending Friends meetings. She advised that Lauren Smyth coordinates the volunteer program and she can be contacted for further information about the range of volunteer needs, including new "Building Ambassador" volunteer positions and used book sale operations opportunities. Susan included a discussion of the specific ways to support the Capital Campaign, e.g., possible matching gifts with your employer, making a pledge of a gift over 3 years, joining together as a group to make a gift, and helping the fundraisers connect with community members who may be interested in supporting the Campaign. Robert also noted that donors at the \$500+ level will be named on a plaque to be displayed in the library. Susan closed her presentation by informing attendees that the Library and the Friends of UDPL seek to assure diversity in all of the Library support opportunities that are available, and thus they encourage all members of the UD community to get involved.

The Friends of Upper Dublin Public Library

Monthly Meeting of Friends Board Members

Virtual meeting conducted using Zoom

April 8, 2021

The Friends Board extended its thanks to both Cheri Fiory and Susan Tofani for their thoughtful and thorough presentations at this meeting.

New Business

Election of Friends Board for 2021/2022 Consistent with past practice, the annual election of Friends Board members for the upcoming year was conducted. All of the current 11 Board members (plus Cheri Fiory as a nonvoting member) agreed to continue to serve on the Friends Board for the upcoming year. Dick Haggard moved that nominations be closed, and Robert Stutz seconded, and that motion was approved by all Friends members present at this meeting. A motion was then made to retain the current slate of Friends Board members for 2021/2022, and the members who were in attendance voted in favor of that motion. There were no dissenting votes. The Board will consider the election of Friends Board officers at the upcoming May 2021 meeting.

The Board and attendees then participated in a cooking demonstration by Chef Ernie Pio, along with an assistant (Sean) conducted in the STEAM Lab. Cheri introduced the presenters, and explained that cooking is recognized by libraries as a vehicle for learning in several areas, including reading, math, science and nutrition. She noted that there are ongoing discussions with Chef Pio about a future cafe in the Library. The presenters offered two recipes (chicken salad and guacamole) for the attendees.

Finally, for her participation in this Annual Meeting, Lynn Rishe was the winner of a drawing for a ticket/signed book to an upcoming author event (David Baldacci).

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Friends of UDPL is scheduled for May 13 at 1:00pm, via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Murphy, Secretary