

Friends of the Whitefish Bay Public Library 2021 Annual Report

Our mission Statement is: to provide appropriate and sufficient financial and volunteer resources in support of the Whitefish Bay Public Library's mission.

To help accomplish our mission the Board held 10 regular meetings in 2021, some via Zoom. We also had some fun socializing at Schoolhouse Park in August. We brought our own lunches and enjoyed the beautiful afternoon.

The Friends awarded two \$500 scholarships to Whitefish Bay High School Seniors. They were judged by an essay about how the library has influenced their lives. We received 13 entries. The essays were published in the Fall *PageTurner* along with the students' pictures, college choices and areas of study.

We held a July book sale for Friends' members only and it was a hit. We invited booksellers to come in and buy books several times during the year when we couldn't have our regular sales. We were able to resume our regular book sale in November and we had record results. People who patronized the book sale were delighted to have a book sale again. We were not able to have the three prior regular book sales because of the COVID epidemic.

Our three focus areas are:

1. Fundraising

Revenue (as of 11/30/2021 and 2020)

	2021			2020		
Book sales	\$ 7,763	21	%	\$ (165)	(1)	%
Book Room Sales	\$ 7,153	19	%	\$ 5,313	24	%
eBay Sales	\$ 16,615	45	%	\$ 13,445.	60	%
Other Book Sales	\$ 1,218	3	%	n/a		
Membership Dues	<u>\$ 4,576</u>	<u>12</u>	%	<u>\$ 3,900</u>	<u>17</u>	%
	\$ 37,325	100	%	\$ 22,493	100%	

Although our contribution to the library was lower than in recent years, we were still able to allocate funds for the regular programs and projects for children, teens, and adults.

Expenses

Our expenses are well under control. We compare ourselves to other 501(c) 3 organizations and our expenses are very low.

2. Volunteers

Friends' volunteers participated in:

Book sorting

Book research

Listing and selling books on eBay

Working on the book sales

Maintaining our membership communication and annual dues

Stocking the books in our two Little Free Libraries at Cahill Park and Kloede Park

Provide ongoing publicity for the Friends

Maintenance of the Friends' Facebook page and our webpage

Maintenance of Book Sale Room in the Library

Production of our semiannual newsletter, *PageTurner*

Adult Writing Contest sponsorship and judging

Photo contest sponsorship

Book donations pickups

We formed an ad hoc committee to come up with new ways to contribute to the library during the pandemic and going forward. This was our strategic plan for 2021.

A thank-you gift card to Sendiks was sent to all volunteers in October during National Friends of Libraries Week.

3. Membership

As of November 30th, we have 155 members. Last year at this time we had 131 members!

Thanks to all our Friends for continuing their memberships during the pandemic.

This was another year of change for the Friends. A few programs and activities remained the same. Other activities had to stop or were on-again and off-again. We were finally able to get back to having book sales: the Friends only sale in July and our regular book sale in November. Sales of books continued strong through eBay throughout the pandemic. Membership dues remained steady (thank you, Friends!) and our Book Room Sales were strong while the library and the room could remain open.

We look forward to getting back to business in 2022 when the pandemic subsides, and all our normal activities can be resumed.