

**Lower Providence Community Library  
Board of Directors meeting  
January 17, 2022**

**Present:** Karen Stine president; Shannon Chase; Ben Simkin; Florence Li-Maldonado; Tejal Mehta; Patricia Fennell-Peaks; Art Miller; Marija Skoog, library director; Jason Sorgini, supervisors' representative; Lisa Yanak, Friends of the Library.

**Election of officers:** Karen Stine was nominated and elected unanimously to continue as president; Tejal Mehta was elected vice president; Art Miller was elected as secretary; Ben Simkin was elected treasurer.

**Approval of minutes:** The minutes of December 14, 2021 were approved with one addition.

**Treasurer's report:** Marija reported that the library came in under budget for 2021, largely because of grants received and because we were down 3 percent in expenditures. We received a refund from the *Wall Street Journal* which we did not receive this year. Final raffle total was \$2410 as well as \$566 from the sale of our book totes. We have received \$38,472.01 in appeal donations since October.

**Director's report:** We have begun the "new hours" that restore us to weekday and Saturday pre-Covid hours. In spite of the pandemic, library circulation of materials increased during 2021. The library will be receiving Covid self-testing kits to hand out to the public under instructions from the Montgomery County Health Department. We will also get test kits for staff use. We have been asked to partner with the Lower Providence Equity and Inclusion Task Force to stage a movie event on Sunday, February 27 when the library is closed. We will require attendees to register ahead of time and to wear masks.

At the end of January Barbara Loewengart, our Reference and Adult Services librarian, left for a position in the private sector. We are evaluating the requirements of the position before interviewing for a replacement.

**Library planning:** The board discussed the report "Library Planning and Expansion Study" we commissioned from J.R. Keller, Creative Partnerships, of Philadelphia. The report proposes a fact-gathering schedule and methodology for considering an expansion of the library. After discussion the board asked Marija to arrange a future zoom conference with Keller for questions and additional information about the study.

**Friends of the Library:** Lisa said that the Friends would like to have additional space considered in any expansion plans for the library. She reported on the recent successful raffle and totes sale and that used books collected by the Friends were now on sale.

**Supervisor's report:** Jason reported that E. J. Mintry had been hired as the new township manager for Lower Providence. Gary Neight will assume the position of chairman of the supervisors for 2022.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted,  
**Arthur Miller, Secretary**