

*Minutes* [ZOOM, online format.]  
*Ardsey Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting,*  
*Thursday, February 25, 2021*

*Attending*

Stephanie Bonney, *President*,  
Lauren Hadi, Peter Keil, Rosemarie Marcus, Valerie S. Lalli, and Michael Wiskind.

Angela Groth, *Library Director*.

Joann D'Emelio, *Village Board Liaison*.

*Absent*, Matthew Gonzales.

Call to Order, 7:32 P.M.

*Approval of Minutes.* The minutes of the meeting of Thursday, January 28, 2021, were approved unanimously following a motion by Michael and a second by Lauren. (*Corrected*, an omission in the December 17<sup>th</sup> minutes: Matthew, whose name was omitted in those minutes, listed as the maker of the motion approving Angela's request to close the Library on Saturday, December 26<sup>th</sup>.)

*Treasurer's Report.* Responding to an unsigned voucher report sent from the Village Office: bills totalling \$5675.86. Michael Wiskind motioned to pay these; Valerie S. Lalli seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

*Director's Report.*

A contribution from the estate of our volunteer Susan Lockwood, who died in October last year, led to a discussion of a complex set of issues: the not-yet appearance of the reported twenty-five thousand dollar tribute, proposals on how to most beneficially use these funds, the additional contribution of Susan's daughter of ten thousand dollars, the distinction that the daughter's gift is designated for the Friends, and is anonymous, and that the funds from the estate will go to the Library.

This led to another extended — depositing and signing checks, both related to Susan's funds and to the signing of checks generally, specifically the roster of those who can sign checks for the Library and the relation of this to Village procedures. (Joann volunteered to continue her discussion with the Village Manager, and with Stephanie, about check signing logistics and getting access to the invoices in advance of meetings.) The practice of a Director using a President's stamped signature was discussed. [*In a post-meeting email*, Stephanie wrote of her refusal to allow such a stamped signature.]

The **fund-raising appeal**: taking away the Lockwood family's generosity, the amounts given to the Friends has been disappointing. The year-end appeal raised about four thousand dollars, about half of a typical year, this year not qualifying as typical. [*In another post-meeting email*, Rosemarie Marcus reported on her realistic hope that a core group of Friends would be willing to form an executive board.]

In responding to a request for clarification of another donation, mentioned in the January minutes, Angela emailed the details of a possible gift from the family of Selma Goldfarb, a volunteer who died in July, 2013. A daughter, Nancy Goldfarb, has been in fitful contact with Angela, but the discussion about something suitable, probably not monetary, has petered out.

Finally, **this month's statistics**:

January circulation, 3,198.

ILL. 2,508; in, 1,488; out, 1,020..

Overdrive Use, 845.  
Hoopla Use, 133.  
Wireless Users, 49.  
Curbside Pick-Ups, 748.

**Our back pages:**

December, 2020.

Circulation, 4,910.  
ILL. 2,161; in, 1,279; out, 882.  
Curbside pick-up, 671.

November, 2020.

Circulation, 4,605.  
ILL. 2,054; in, 1,217; out, 837.  
Hoopla usage, 118.  
Overdrive, 731.

Curbside pick-up, 546, twenty-one days, for an average of twenty-six *per diem*.

December, 2019.

Circulation, 6,800.  
ILL, 2,513; in, 1,319; out, 1,194.  
People Count for December,

2019, 4523 for the twenty-two days open, one hundred eighty-eight a day.

**Angela added** in her report of the January statistics, in her words, *A little perspective from neighboring libraries:*

Dobbs Ferry, circulation (*e<sup>o</sup> ff*), 1,804. [11,049 *population*.]

Hastings, circulation, 3,607. [7,779]

Irvington, 2,301. [6,423]

Pelham, 2,259. [12,511]

Tuckahoe, 1,182 [6,596]

Mt. Vernon, 1,002 [66,725]

[Ardsley population, 4,519.]

[Population, all 2021 estimates from <https://worldpopulationreview.com/>.]

*The Village's Multicultural, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee.* Matthew Gonzales *sent this email report, slightly augmented:* Eighteen participated on Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, for the second half of our discussion of Ta-Nehisi Coates's *Between the World and Me*. Feedback for these programs continues to be positive. The Committee has selected texts for the months of February through June, choosing non-fiction and fiction. The next text is non-fiction, *How To Be an Antiracist* (2019) by Ibram X. Kendi; the first discussion, of a portion, pages 13 to 43, is this Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 4 P.M. Also at this meeting, a choice, with a read-aloud text, for all, of *The Youngest Marcher: The Story of Audrey Faye Hendricks, a Young Civil Rights Activist* (2017) by Cynthia Levinson. A flyer [on the Library website] lists the upcoming events.

*The meeting adjourned at 8:07.*

The next meeting, Thursday, March 25, 2021, 7:30 P.M., *virtual format*.

Respectfully submitted,

*Peter Keil,*

March 25, 2021.

[*These minutes were not supported by a transcript of the recording of the actual meeting.*]