



The Newtown Library Company

Dear Library Member:

October 2021

Our Annual Shareholders Meeting would typically be held on the last Saturday in October at the Library. However, due to ongoing safety concerns for our members and volunteers during the COVID-19 variants, we have decided to cancel this in-person meeting. Even though we re-opened on May 18th with mask requirements still in place, we feel that sitting a large group of people in an enclosed area would not be safe at this time. In the absence of the annual meeting, we invite members to call or email us with any comments or concerns.

Below you will find voting and membership information for the 2021-2022 calendar year. Also, in lieu of our annual meeting, we have included a recap of the year's events below.

Membership: If your membership expires on 10/31/2021, you will find your 2021-22 renewal form enclosed. Anyone interested in joining our family of volunteers should indicate his or her interest at the bottom of the form. You can also renew your membership online and/or complete our new volunteer contact form. Visit NewtownLibraryCompany.org.

Why does renewing your membership help us? As a private, not-for-profit, business we do not receive any money from the state (as the public libraries do). We hope you will consider renewing your membership which will help us maintain our beautiful building and up-to-date, bestseller book collection. We have been blessed to receive donations from the borough of Newtown and First National Bank each year, but the bulk of our income comes from membership dues, generous individual donors and fundraising events. Every dollar we receive goes directly towards operating expenses such as book buying, building maintenance, utility bills, and salaries, etc. Renewing your membership is the first step to help the Library.

Executive Board Ballot: Enclosed is your annual voting ballot, which should be mailed by October 23rd or dropped off directly at the Library before October 30th. Ballots will be counted at the end of business on October 30th and the 2021-22 Board members will be announced on our website.

EXCITING New Venture into eBooks is coming:

We are thrilled to announce that we are working with cloudLibrary by bibliotheca to bring eBooks to our members! As it stands, eBooks and digital audiobooks will likely be available to our members before the end of the year. Look forward to easier access to the latest bestsellers and favorite classics.

Fundraising/Programs: Our 261st year has proven to be almost as challenging as 2020; however, we are pleased to announce we just completed our 5K Race and Book Sale which were held outside on a beautiful day alongside Market Day. These two fundraisers are projected to earn approximately \$5,700 and \$1,065 in profit respectively once all sponsor checks and expense bills have been received. It was wonderful to finally be able to have these events outside after missing them in 2020. We thank all those who participated, volunteered and sponsored these events.

We continue our ongoing Gift of Reading Fundraiser, which allows members to donate towards our book budget and have inscriptions made in their name or in memory of a loved one. Our other fundraiser, The Amazing Race, was held in the spring but with a different twist! Families and participants bought their scavenger hunt tickets online and were able to finish the course over a weekend at their own pace. We received wonderful feedback about this event and look to have another in the near future.

All of our regular indoor programs, including our children's story time, meditation sessions, poetry readings, and book signings remain canceled until further notice. We are going to provide a few indoor programs where space allows with masks required; look for them on our website or through social media announcements.

In Closing: We are so happy to see so many of you back in the library again. The Newtown Library Company has been serving the Newtown community since 1760. We are able to continue operating through the generous donations & membership of our community, and we sincerely thank you.

We send our wishes to you, and your family, for continued well-being and health.

Sincerely,

The Newtown Library Company Board of Directors

Joe Carfagno
Donna Gusty

Katrina Fleetham
Steve Haeckel

Alex Gallagher
Allison Northup

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newtownlibrarycompany.org*