

# Friends of the Southwest Brunswick Branch Library 2020 Annual Report

The Friends of the Southwest Brunswick Branch Library (SWBBL) are passionate about making our community a better place through our support of our library. 2020 was a very unusual year for our library patrons, our library staff and our whole world. Here is how the combined efforts of the Friends, our library staff, our invaluable volunteers and our patrons helped the SWBBL continue to be a place of refuge and support for our community!

## **Volunteers**

While the library was closed to inside service, our volunteers were on hand every day to deliver books to our patrons curbside. They continued working the stacks pulling all the books that our patrons requested through phone calls and electronic requests. All those books had to be wiped down with disinfectant before they could be checked back in and made ready for a new checkout! They continued to provide direction and assistance as needed in our computer lab. A total of 3426 hours were logged by just under one hundred people in only 7 months!

## **Missed celebrations**

Due to the pandemic we were not able to celebrate our second anniversary in our current location or Library Appreciation week for our wonderful staff and volunteers. We look forward to these and many more celebrations in 2021.

## **Give a Book**

Our Give a Book, whereby our patrons could donate money for the purchase of a book or books to honor or in memory of a loved one, provided for the purchase of 10 books for 2020.

## **Library Name Change**

While our name was changed in our By-Laws and with the state of North Carolina to reflect the name of the library, we are still waiting to hear from the federal government to reflect that change for our not for profit status.

## **Better World Books Award**

Our library receives hundreds of book, CD and DVD donations every week. These donations sometimes find their way to our library shelves or our book sale room. Any items that we would not use are sent to Better World Books, BWB, who pays for shipping. These items are then sorted and sold by BWB on major marketplaces. Each item we send that is sold generates funds for our Friends group, which supplies a small but steady stream of income. This summer we were informed that our library sent the book that was to become their 100 millionth book sold!!! We were so excited to hear that news but even more thrilled when we heard that BWB was extending to our library a grant of \$2500!! We will be using those funds to purchase large print books for our collection.

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**Book Sale Room**

Our book sale room continues to be a source of revenue for the Friends even though we had two months of no sales at all due to the pandemic. During the 2020 fiscal year the book sale room reported income of \$2814 while the sales for 2019 were of \$9207. Thanks to our community who donates and in turn buys our books, puzzles, games, videos and CDs. It would not be possible without the support of our many volunteers who keep our book sale room neat and organized. Keep bringing them in!

**Library Programs and Activities**

All activities were suspended during this year, with the exception of the Book Club that continued to meet using Zoom.

**Giving Back to the Community**

We continued to receive non-perishable food items to be donated to the Brunswick Family Assistance.

**Amazon Smile**

Amazon has a program where you can designate a non profit organization to get a percentage of every purchase. Last year we deposited \$133 through this program. When signing up, look for Hickmans Crossroads Library in Calabash as we have not been able to get our changed formally as yet.

**Financial Responsibility**

A copy of our Summary Financial Statement is attached to this report. Briefly, here is a partial list of how we stewarded the funds brought into the Friends:

Theater Quality Sound System	Audio Books
Large Print Books	Books from patron requests
Oscar nominated movies	Cleaning Supplies
Book jackets	

6/16/2021