

MINUTES  
JUNE 2, 2020

Tuesday June 3, 2020 was the final meeting of the Novel Club for calendar year 2019-2020. For the third time this year since the Covid 19 quarantines, we met via Zoom. Our official host for the meeting was Catherine LaCroix, who holds the account we've been using.

Attendance was strong, with approximately 26 participants. Before the book discussion, we welcomed Lee Haas as a new member. Rebecca Carmi and her husband Irad are soon to be new members, as their applications have been sent in and information circulated. Rebecca was in attendance. There were no guests.

We discussed the donation. This had been proposed at the last meeting, as we have extra funds that have been not used for other purchases or activities. Tricia Smith proposed the Kids' Book Bank, a well vetted organization in Cleveland that provides children with free books. Jennie Kaffen suggested the Cleveland Public Library. Most members agreed that this was a good idea, although Catherine spoke against the idea, as this is not what our funds are for and we have other expenses. Nevertheless, it was decided that we would make a donation this year, while it would not be necessarily every year. After a brief discussion it was decided that \$100 would go to the Kids' Book Bank, and \$100 to The Cleveland Public Library.

Andy Fabens presented the biography of Thomas Hardy, and Leigh Fabens the critical paper. Please read them online. Thoughtful discussion followed, and we finished the meeting with a vote on the most liked and least liked books of the year. *Cry, The Beloved Country* by Alan Paton won as the favorite, and *Some Do Not* by Ford Maddox Ford was voted least favorite.

We adjourned for the summer, with the hope that we will see each other in person sometime this year.