The Greater Philadelphia Chapter by Elizabeth Mosteller and Carli Ducko

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the Women’s National Book Association was established in 2015 by Elizabeth Mosteller, as a result of her desire to surround herself with strong women who aspire to promote literacy and the world of books in their daily lives. Liz Dowiak, Dee Kindt, Angie Venezia, Kate Sandora, Cindy Mannon, and Maria Thomson served as the initial board for the organization and worked very closely with Elizabeth in the chapter’s infancy. In addition to the executive members, Brittany Berry served as the Social Media Chair, Shelly Douglas as the Outreach Chair, and Carli Ducko as the Centennial Chair.

The chapter celebrated its first membership event in honor of National Reading Group Month by hosting an author panel at Towne Book Center and Cafe in Collegeville, Pennsylvania, in October 2015. Membership meetings are held monthly and rotate in agenda, but consistently support the mission of the National Chapter to support reading, literacy, and the role of women in the community of the book.

During its charter year, chapter membership reached twenty-seven members. The executive board and members continue to establish their presence in the Greater Philadelphia suburbs and look forward to increasing membership as they participate in various events throughout the community. There are plans to reach out to area writers’ conferences, universities, and publishers.
Many of the executive board, committee chairs, and members have backgrounds in the field of education and strive to spread literacy and reading in their day-to-day lives. The Greater Philadelphia Chapter also strives to be a local resource to encourage the empowerment and education of future generations; and to encourage future generations to value books and literature as they continue to grow, in both their personal and professional lives.