

Saugerties Public Library
Regular Board Meeting
Date: May 8, 2025

Present: Trustees Paul Vanbenschoten, Nina Schmidbaur, Timothy Scott, Julie Misiano, Ken Goldberg, Erin Poll, with Rebecca Lang arriving late at 6:17 PM.

Excused: Charlotte Herscher, Teresa Giordano, Yosefa Karchmar

Staff: Director Jennifer Russell

Public Attendees: Leeanne Thornton

Meeting called to order at 6:04 PM by President Tim Scott

Public Comment: Leeanne Thornton, Town Board liaison to the library says that there was a Town Board meeting last night which addressed the Drummond Falls Road bridge which is in need of repair, with the Town portion anticipated to be over \$200,000. Greene County has been unable to secure a grant for which they applied, which would help repair the other side of the bridge.

-Three members of the police department have resigned for various reasons.

-Vandalism at Cantine Field is up, even with patrols. Some of the vandalism has included significant damage to the plumbing, with large items being flushed down the toilets, which required hours of work to repair as well as assistance from the Town of Kingston.

-The Town Maintenance worker responsible for cleaning all of the Town Buildings, is retiring at the end of this month.

- Next Wednesday the 14th at 6:30pm, the Village will have a public meeting about the development proposed for North Street, along Market Street between North and Elm. Location may be moved to the Senior Center to host the number of expected attendees.

- Thursday May 22nd, there will be a Brooks Barbecue fundraiser to raise money for the Splash Pad in Cantine Field. They will also be applying for grants.

Friends of Library:

A member of the Friends did not attend this meeting.

Unfinished Business:

- N/A

New Business:

1. Resignation of Board Member: Robert Irizarry tendered his resignation last month. The bylaws state that a temporary trustee may be appointed with the majority vote of the active Trustees, until such time as there is a new election with nominees opting to run. The period opens in July.

Tim Scott made a motion to discuss whether to replace Rob temporarily at this time, or wait until the next term begins. New candidates interested in becoming a trustee are able to obtain petitions to get on the ballot in July. One open spot would be for the three years that Rob has left in his term.

Motion made by Nina Schmidbaur, seconded by Tim Scott to approve the plan to not appoint a Trustee for the next four months, and wait until the election. The caveat is that should an extra member be needed for an important policy/personnel issue, the committee on which Rob served, other Trustees will be willing to attend that committee meeting. Passes unanimously.

2. Mixer planned to acclimate interested Trustees, most likely at the end of June.

Secretary's Report:

Motion by Tim Scott and *Second* by Rebecca Lang to approve the minutes as written. Nina Schmidbaur abstained since she was absent at the last meeting. Motion passes unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$ 43,888.94 made by Julie Misiano seconded by Tim Scott Passes unanimously

Director's Report: Please see the report included in the Meeting Packet.

- Celebrated Library Appreciation Week with food for the staff, and t-shirts from the Friends
- The MHLS app as been launched for each individual library
- Installation of New Computers for the patrons has been completed
- Bard College environmental studies researchers will be gathering data on air quality through a device installed in the back garden
- Tempestry Project upcoming system-wide. The hope is to get all libraries to participate in knitting year-based temperature blankets. The knitters will get the data of the years selected, and knit rows based on the temperature data.

Committee Reports:

Finance: met on 4/21/25

1. Ordered new staff computers since most of the current ones will not be able to be updated to the new Windows OS.
2. While preparing next year's budget, discussed some significant increases in costs for line items where the costs are set by other entities such as retirement costs or insurance costs.
3. Would like to reduce cost and improve internet speeds; and we are exploring options.

see minutes FMI Next meeting: May 19, 2025 at 6PM

Personnel/Policy: met on April 16, 25

- A new clerk has been hired due to a former clerk, Dori Hopf, resigning. Her name is Jane Vecchio
- Discussed staff salaries and raises as it compares with inflation projections.
- Development of a Disaster Plan if there is an area disaster that would affect the functioning of the library, as opposed to the plan that is in collaboration with the Town for how the library could support the community in a disaster.

see minutes FMI Next meeting: TBD at 6PM

Facilities: met on April 18, 25

1. Scheduled repairs or upgrades have commenced or been completed.
2. Identified other areas in need of repairs such as some of the lights and a leaky outdoor faucet.
3. Reviewing suggested updates and/or changes that the gardener would like for the landscape and garden.

see minutes FMI Next meeting: May 20, 25 at 6 PM

Outreach: met on April 28, 25

- Will order "Dementia Kits" to add to the Library of Things.
- Identified Places for Outreach Tabling. Will be seeking volunteers.
- Senior Reading Program at the Ivy Lodge. The first one was considered a big hit by the reader and the residents.
- Developing a "Check out an Expert" event for October. Plan is to have up to 25 volunteers to be at the library in the evening to answer the questions asked by interested patrons.

see minutes FMI Next meeting: May 26, 2025 at 5:30 PM

Friends Liaison: N/A

Motion to adjourn at 6:57 PM by Tim Scott ;
Seconded by Nina Schmidbaur

Passes unanimously.

Submitted by Julie Misiano

Next meeting: June 12, 2025 at 6PM