

Dennis P. McHugh Piermont Library
Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 12, 2025, 7:00 PM
(In person at the Library)

Present: Len Hunt, Anne O'Brien, Victoria Panetis, Tina Roeder, Kelly Ruby, Ed Stanford, Sara Tucker, Shauna Wennerod, Usha Wright

Also Present: Alex Tretiak, Library Director

A quorum was present in person.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:09pm by Ed Stanford.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes for the October 15 meeting: Motion was made by Sara Tucker. Seconded by Kelly Ruby. The motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC EXPRESSION

None.

IV. LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Highlights from the report include the following:

- The Book Sale launched successfully this past Sunday, November 9 with a turnout of over 300 patrons. The sale will continue until the end of this week and potentially be extended into the beginning of next week.
- The director submitted a grant application to the M&T Bank Charitable Foundation. The application seeks a renewal for two of our existing museum passes, along with introducing lendable exploration kits with an environmental focus.
- Friday afternoon movies continued throughout October with *Hamilton* drawing our biggest turnout yet. We screened Abbot and Costello movies each day during the last week of the month, and held a monster movie marathon all day on Halloween.
- Our art show of the month was "Our River, My Muse" by Julie Cahn.
- We offered two technology classes on how to download eBooks and audiobooks through Libby.
- Our ongoing storytime program and art classes continue to see regular attendance. We are also attempting to build attendance for the two children's book clubs, Book Adventures and She Persisted.

V. TREASURER'S REPORT

A. Monthly Report: Presented by Victoria Panetis. Posted on the Library website.

B. Claim Sheet: Motion to approve the claim sheet made by Anne O'Brien. Seconded by Len Hunt. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Fundraising & Special Events Committee (reported by Sara Tucker)

-The Pumpkin Decorating took place on Sunday, October 26. This community-building event attracted a lot of new faces, many from the farmer's market crowd.

-The year-end appeal was mailed to all residents, many of whom received it in the mail today.

-Gift of Art will take place on Sunday, December 7, from 2-4pm. This annual event draws a large crowd and features affordable art by local artists, with a reception of delicious food and wine donated by our local restaurants and businesses and live music entertainment.

-The next Local Spotlight will be the Happy Dog Gallery.

B. Building & Grounds Committee (reported by Len Hunt)

-The front porch lights were fixed.

-The gutters will undergo a final cleaning once all the leaves have fallen.

C. Annual Election Update (reported by Tina Roeder)

-The election is coming up on December 10. An e-blast with election information will go out to patrons as soon as possible.

D. Policy Committee (reported by Shauna Wennerod)

-The committee received feedback from both staff and board members on the personnel manual draft. With Usha Wright joining the committee, we will meet again to further revise the manual based on the feedback, namely aiming to strike a balance between creating a manual that staff can actually use, and ensuring that the Library is in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws.

-The proposed draft of the Policy on the Use of the Library for Non-Library-Sponsored Events will be further revised so a first reading will be postponed until the next Board meeting.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Motion to approve the FY 2026-2027 Proposed Library Budget. Motion made by Len Hunt. Seconded by Shauna Wennerod. The motion passed with eight votes in favor and one abstention. A copy of the FY 2026-2027 Library Budget is posted on the Library website.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Anne O'Brien. Seconded by Kelly Ruby. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:43pm.