

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE ABINGTON TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Date: April 28, 2025

The Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Joe Milano.

PRESENT: Joe Milano, Emily Cooper, Lauren Greaves, Daniel Kaye, Elaine Cassidy Shanahan, Maurie Markman and Liz Fitzgerald were in attendance along with Terry Biansco, Dimitra Seiler, Don Pierce and Diane Moskal.

MINUTES: Motion to approve the minutes of March 24, 2025, was made by Joe Milano, seconded by Maurie Markman. Motion approved.

PRESENTATION: Don Pierce conducted an annual audit review. Independent auditors' report highlighted a few points about our financial statements. Our reports are in accordance with general standards. Reviewed our responsibilities and risks they encourage us to monitor over time. He expressed gratitude for our ongoing cooperation in the auditing process. A motion to approve the 2024 Financial Audit presented by Don Pierce was made by Joe Milano, seconded by Maurie Markman. Motion approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The February 2025 Treasurer's Report was reviewed. Highlights include:

- Line items that are low for this month due to timing of payments made. Areas that appear low this month are expected to even out over the course of the year.
- Thank you to Friends for their gift of \$2,300.

The February 2025 Treasurer's report was reviewed and will be filed for audit.

The March 2025 Treasurer's Report was reviewed. Highlights include:

- Utilities cost relatively higher than usual but are expected to even out over the year.
- Conference travel relatively higher this year due to timing of those events.
- Furniture and equipment purchases were over-budget for the month.
- Significant interest earned this month, partly due to quarterly CD maturity interest.

The March 2025 Treasurer's report was reviewed and will be filed for audit.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Thank you to all who celebrated National Library Week!
- Professional Development that took place at last staff breakfast included a speaker on county homelessness. As a follow-up, staff heard a different speaker who talked about de-escalation. Very informative and engaging. Next staff breakfast and pin ceremony will be on May 29 at 8:30 a.m.
- First event in Nancy J. Wright Author Series is June 4 with Liz Moore and is almost sold out!
- Marketing and communications specialist positions are currently available – interviews taking place now.
- New MCLINC director assumed his role last week. His IT background will be an asset to the role.

Reference

- ACTIVE students visited the library for two tours and instruction on document printing.
- Take and Makes are very popular!
- Art History programs are resonating with a lot of people.

Upcoming Program Highlights

- Elaine Wolfson Magilner Concert Series featuring V. Shayne Frederick was a huge hit!
- Senior Social Hour, which will be hosted by Liz

Children's

- So many programs this past month! No age limits anymore and no required registrations beforehand. Three story times each week take place with roughly 50 attendees! Many people visit the play center afterwards.
- Other highlights include Minecraft party and Egg Drop Challenge
- Five of six Summer Reading Sponsors are secured.
- Great teen programs, including Meditative Arts and no-sew toys for dogs and cats.
- Thank you to Sarah for visiting all 6th and 7th grade classrooms in the area!
- Upcoming Highlights include anime workshops, teen craft fairs, improv series and writing workshops.

Roslyn

- Hosted its first Play and Grow event, which was the first event held for babies at that site in over six years!
- Meg continues to go to outreach events in the Roslyn area and we are grateful for her hard work.

Facilities

- Jim ran dripline in both parking-lot islands to maintain plantings.

- Closed April 21 so leaky pipe could be fixed. Jim and John deep-cleaned the building that day.

ADULT LITERACY REPORT:

- Annual potluck reception will take place June 11. All are welcome to attend. We discussed the value in inviting senators, state representatives, commissioners and *The Glenside News* to the event so they can learn of the impact of our adult tutoring services. We are verifying the location of that event.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Friends – Terry Biansco: Spring Plant and Book Sale was a huge success! So many volunteers. The event made approximately \$4K. Many Friends attended the Eric Klinenberg event at Upper Dublin. Friends, led by Diane Moskal, also started a postcard campaign to challenge recent decisions made at the federal level that have potential to negatively impact libraries at the state level. Friends is gearing up for June events and Summer Reading!
- B. Policy and Personnel – Daniel Kaye: Board seat will need to be filled. Notice placed in Commissioner Spiegelman’s newsletter asking for public interest.
- C. Development/Long-Range Planning -- Maurie Markman: Stressed the importance of moving forward regarding our need for a new building. Need a commitment from the Township to hire a consultant who will help us draft our plan. Liz will speak with Chris Christman this week about this idea.
- D. Facilities – Joe Milano: No updates.
- E. Finance and Investment– Emily Cooper: No updates.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: We discussed process for interviewing potential board members and asked current board members to choose their levels of engagement in that process. We also discussed preferred areas of expertise for a new board member that could fill gaps in expertise and help us optimally serve the community. We acknowledge the importance of asking local leaders, such as Art Haywood and church leaders, to help us get the word out about this open position.

CORRESPONDENCE: Distributed to all Board members.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Diane Moskal shared that she went to the ATPL website and noticed that the board meeting dates need to be updated. She also underscored the importance of inviting Terry Biansco to all important events, like the June Adult Literacy Potluck.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion made by Joe Milano to adjourn the Board meeting, seconded by Daniel Kaye. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Our next Board meeting is May 19, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

The next Friends meeting will take place in the Library Community Room on May 10, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elaine Cassidy Shanahan
Board Secretary