

## Hillsdale Free Public Library

Board of Trustees

February 24, 2025

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In attendance were: William Berde, Elizabeth DiLorenzo, Elizabeth Leonard, Amanda Miller, Kelly Pacor, Carol Schepker, Barbara Wertheim

Also present: David Franz, Director of the Library, Jonna Davis (Mayor's Alternate), Janetta Trochimiuk (Liaison to the Council)

Excused: Warren Harris

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Ms. Miller called to order a meeting of the Trustees of the Free Public Library of Hillsdale, Bergen County, New Jersey. Notice of this meeting was transmitted to the newspaper of record, filed with the Borough Clerk, and posted on the Library's website and bulletin board, in accordance with the Open Public Meeting's Law.

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 PM. A motion to approve the January 13, 2025 minutes was made by Ms. Wertheim, seconded by Mr. Berde. Unanimous vote of approval.

Public invited to speak: No one was in attendance.

President's Report: Ms. Miller: She recognized and thanked Ms. Schepker for her excellent three year tenure as Board President. She would like the Advisory Bd. to assist with the implementation of the Strategic Plan and suggested a repository of shared library documents. Mr. Franz will share the link for 'read only' documents. She also suggested having staff periodically join the Board of Trustees' meetings; Ms. Greenwald will be speaking about her position this evening.

Staff Spotlight: Cindy Greenwald, Children's Librarian: She has been the Children's Librarian for 34 years, beginning in 1991. Children's circulation is very high in comparison to neighboring libraries. She praised Mr. Franz and the library staff for their support which positively impacts the room. New furniture may be a future purchase. Summer programming is being developed; the theme will be *Color My World*.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Berde: All checks are to the usual vendors and programs. WL memberships and fines are up. Expenses and utilities are on target. Mr. Franz explained NJ State Aid; we have two years to expend those monies. Mr. Franz explained the Woodcliff Lake membership reimbursement.

Ms. DiLorenzo made a motion to accept the operating bill list as presented, seconded by Ms. Schepker. Unanimous vote of approval.

Director's Report: Mr. Franz:

- He thanked Ms. Pacor and Ms. Leonard for attending the Trustees professional development program "The Value of BCCLS."
- The library will be getting a telephone upgrade; currently, we have Optimum as a backup. The Borough will be switching to Bergen Fiber and we may switch to that as our backup internet.

- He met with the Borough Finance Committee and additional funding is being included for a new roof. Ms. Miller suggested forming a sub-committee to look at roofing bids. Mr. Berde and Ms. Leonard volunteered.
- Ms. Wertheim, Mr. Harris and Ms. Leonard will also review the Conduct Policy.
- The library has two Ramadan displays and patrons thanked us for them. The town hosted a Ramadan event in the park.
- Data from Social Media posts on Facebook is monitored. There was a 70% increase in the number of posts from last year, far surpassing our goal. Staff contribute posts. Pascack Press has given us favorable press, particularly in January.
- For 2025, we have a robust collection development allocation.
- Mr. Franz is re-introducing free digital access to the NY Times and The Wall Street Journal for Hillsdale patrons. NYT is for a 24 hr period; WSJ has a 72 hr window. Patrons can log on daily using their Hillsdale Library card. Information on how to use this service is on the library's website. Ms. Trochimiuk will share the information with Borough Council.
- He is seeking staff for proposed Sunday openings.

Policies: A sub-committee met and wrote a Clubs Policy. There is some overlap with the Meeting Room and Rules of Conduct current policies. No further revisions to the Clubs Policy were requested at this time.

Meeting Room and Rules of Conduct Policies: A sub-committee needs to be formed to review these two policies. Board members were thanked for their dedicated review of these policies.

The Friends/The Foundation: The Foundation approved \$27,500 for the year. They are considering a small fundraising event this year and a larger one for the library's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

New Business: Supervising Library Assistant Debbie Lease's last day will be March 31. She will be the Staff Spotlight at the March 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. There will be a "Debbie Appreciation Day" on March 25<sup>th</sup>. On Wed., April 2<sup>nd</sup>, the library will close slightly early to allow the staff to honor her.

The next regularly scheduled Library Board meeting will be on March 17, 2025. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Schepker, seconded by Ms. Wertheim. Unanimous vote of approval. The meeting officially adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Deirdre Danaher*  
 Recording Secretary