

Hillsdale Free Public Library

Board of Trustees

November 17, 2025

In attendance were: William Berde, Warren Harris, Elizabeth Leonard, Amanda Miller, Kelly Pacor, Carol Schepker, Mayor Michael Sheinfeld, Barbara Wertheim

Also present: David Franz, Director of the Library

Excused: Elizabeth DiLorenzo, Janetta Trochimiuk (Liaison to the Council)

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 October 20, 2025 minutes was made by Ms. Schepker, seconded by Ms. Wertheim. Unanimous vote of approval.

Public was invited to speak: No one was in attendance.

President's Report: Ms. Miller: The raised garden bed is in progress. She met with Bob Ax, Foundation President, and Steve McKenna, Friends President, about the Library's upcoming 90th anniversary. A nominating committee is needed for a slate of new officers for 2026. Mr. Harris, Ms. Leonard and Ms. Wertheim volunteered.

Treasurer's Report: The library is fiscally sound. All checks are to the usual vendors and programs. A new 3D printer was purchased with funding appropriated by *The Friends*.

Mr. Berde made a motion to accept the operating bill list as presented, seconded by Mr. Harris. Unanimous vote of approval.

Director's Report: Mr. Franz: Lerch, Vinci & Bliss, LLP, provided an engagement letter to provide auditing services for next year with only a minimal fee increase. Ms. Pacor made a motion to approve these auditors, seconded by Mr. Berde. Unanimous vote of approval.

Use of Funds/Equipment:

- ❖ The Pascack Valley Soccer Assoc. has been collecting used sports equipment every Fall since 2012. They place a collection bin at the library.
- ❖ A Pascack Hills HS student is collecting dental products this month for SmileDrive.org.
- ❖ Circulation is doing well, particularly in digital.
- ❖ A library patron who is a very frequent user of our makerspace equipment has offered to donate \$2,000 towards the purchase of a new laser cutter that will engrave metal.

A motion was made by Ms. Schepker to have the Library utilize reserve funds to pay for the remaining balance, seconded by Mr. Harris. Unanimous vote of approval.

- ❖ Mr. Franz is offering classes on Tuesday evenings demonstrating the various machines and tools.

2026 Draft Budget: Mr. Franz shared an update of the budget and an updated salaries and wages sheet. It also notes a promotion of Michele Kilmurray to a full-time position as Program Coordinator.

A sub-committee consisting of Mr. Berde, Ms. Miller, Ms. Schepker, and Ms. Wertheim previously met to discuss salaries.

At 7:55 PM, a motion was made by Ms. Miller to go into closed session. Ms. Pacor seconded. The Advisory Bd. went into closed session to discuss personnel.

At 8:01, a motion was made by Ms. Wertheim to go back into open session. Seconded by Ms. Leonard. The meeting went back into open session.

Ms. Schepker made a motion to approve the 2026 budget as presented, Mr. Harris seconded. Unanimous vote of approval.

The Friends/The Foundation: Ms. Miller said that The Foundation would like a large committee to support the planning for the 90th anniversary celebration of the Library. *The Friends* met on Oct. 20th. He is assisting them with their upcoming solicitation mailing. A possible date for the celebration would be on October 16, 2026.

New Business: NA

The next regularly scheduled Library Board meeting will be on December 8, 2025. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mayor Sheinfield, seconded by Mr. Berde. Unanimous vote of approval. The meeting officially adjourned at 8:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Deirdre Danaher
Recording Secretary