

## Hillsdale Free Public Library

**Board of Trustees**

**October 20, 2025**

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*In attendance were:* Elizabeth DiLorenzo, Warren Harris, Amanda Miller, Kelly Pacor, Carol Schepker, Barbara Wertheim

*Also present:* David Franz, Director of the Library, Mayor Michael Sheinfield, Janetta Trochimiuk (Liaison to the Council)

*Excused:* William Berde, Elizabeth Leonard

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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 7:30 PM. A motion to approve the Sept.15, 2025 minutes was made by Ms. Wertheim, seconded by Ms. DiLorenzo. Unanimous vote of approval.

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

President's Report: Ms. Miller shared the front cover story and photos from Pascack Press about the mini golf fundraiser. This is the second front cover story to appear this year. The roof replacement was completed. The golf fundraiser and open course events took place on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> and was enjoyed by all. We are approaching the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Library. She has reached out to The Friends and The Foundation for ways to celebrate this anniversary.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Franz: The library is fiscally sound. All checks are to the usual vendors and programs. Mr. Franz concurred with Mr. Berde's submitted comments. Baker & Taylor is closing; they supplied many of our books. We are transitioning to Ingram and Amazon; Amazon has been very pro-active in their pricing and offerings to libraries.

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

Director's Report: Mr. Franz:

- The Library received a \$1,000 donation from Ronald Miller and Carol Schepker.
- The initial \$5,000 donation, of \$10,000, from the Santulli Foundation has been expended. The Fund made a 2<sup>nd</sup> donation in September of \$10,000 with the stipulation that the monies continue going directly to the library to continue funding programs that helped people. The funds have been spent on health and wellness programs. Mr. Franz is requesting that the remaining \$15,000 continue to support health and wellness programs. Mayor Sheinfield made a motion to authorize Mr. Franz to direct this funding towards health and wellness programs, seconded by Mr. Harris. Unanimous vote of approval.
- The audit by Lerch, Vinci & Bliss, LLP, was completed. The cost for 2026 will be \$3,700. A motion was made to accept this audit by Ms. Miller, seconded by Ms. Wertheim. Unanimous vote of approval.
- Mr. Franz shared a chart of current programs and their attendance numbers.

- He received a bid to repair the concrete on the patio.
- He would like to include, within the development line, funds for memorial donations on behalf of the Board in special situations.
- He is exploring having a shade system installed over the patio for use in the summer months which would increase the space for outdoor programming and enjoyment. He would like to install a shed to store items like that. The rubber stripping on the flood logs by the Children's Room need to be replaced.
- PSE & G proposes running an electric line from the west side to the east side along one side of the library and underneath the brook. The line would be a 2<sup>nd</sup> backup line during storms, connecting a number of towns. Mayor Sheinfield explained the logistics.

Policy Revisions: Meeting Room, Hold Harmless Provision, Meeting Room Application, Rules of Conduct, and Clubs. Upon review, Mr. Harris sought some clarifications. The language "to the extent permitted by law" will be added to the Hold Harmless Agreement.

Mr. Harris made a motion to have the Library Board approve the policies as stated above, seconded by Ms. Wertheim. Unanimous vote of approval.

2026 Draft Budget Proposal: Mr. Franz shared a draft of the budget. He discussed medical insurance as one major cost. He discussed several other line items. A chart was provided comparing BCCLS libraries for population, circulation rates, wages, and other parameters.

Personnel Committee: A sub-committee is needed to discuss this: Ms. Miller, Mr. Berde, Ms. Schepker, and Ms. Wertheim volunteered to serve.

The Friends/The Foundation: Gross profits from the golf fundraiser were approximately \$9,428. No other reports given.

New Business: None

The next regularly scheduled Library Board meeting will be on Nov. 17, 2025. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Harris, seconded by Ms. DiLorenzo. Unanimous vote of approval. The meeting officially adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Deirdre Danaher*  
 Recording Secretary