

Wharton Public Library Board of Trustees

Minutes – from April 15, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Michele Howe at 7:06pm

Present: Trustees Ana Jones, Colleen Pascale, Michele Howe, Leonor Vasquez, Amelia Nittolo, Christopher Roman, **Also in attendance:** Virginia Halprin, Library Director

Absent: Deb DiMatteo

Public Notice

Read aloud: In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., proper notice of this meeting was published in the Star-Ledger, on the library's website, and on social media pages.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from March meeting: Ms. Jones, seconded by Ms. Pascale. Adjustment to the minutes was acknowledged to show that Colleen Pascale was absent, and not Deb DiMatteo, as minutes stated.

Correspondence – Ms. Halprin spoke about letter from The Canal Society of NJ dated March 20, 2025 supporting the library's grant application, and she briefly spoke about the letter serving the grant application.

Committee Report: Ms. Howe discussed from the email about financials and a discussion with Gabrielle Evangelista, Borough Clerk from town hall is needed to resolve.

Financial Report

- Payment of bills, resolution 53 motion by Ms. Pascale, seconded by Ms. Jones. Motion passed unanimously by all trustees present.

President's Report

- Ms. Howe provided update on funds transfer/banking change. Waiting for a response by Mr. Kovalcik.
- Transfer of \$3K to Friends account did not happen. Mr. Kovalcik to advise.

Library Director's Report Highlights

- Discussion about a recent plumbing issue in the basement due to a patron flushing wipes, possible list of vendors/ providers to reply in emergency cases.
- Suggestion was made by Ms. Pascale to have an action plan and a “walk-through” by staff after events.
- Ms. Halprin discussed additional building and grounds issues awaiting addressing by the Borough
- Ms. Halprin discussed the success of programs like the tax preparation program, and the attendance numbers for programs such as storytime, Game Night, etc.
- Fundraising events, the Grant application submitted by Ms. Halprin, and donations to assist the library.
- “Wharton Night Out” - Library will be present.
- Canal Society to pick up items to display at the newly opened Canal Museum.

Public Portion - No members of the public were present.

Old Business – A budget question was asked by Ms. Vasquez regarding T-mobile bill, and Ms. Howe suggested that a conversation between Mr. Kovalcik, the Borough administrator and CFO, Ms. Halprin, and Ms. Howe was needed.

New Business – Discussion of allowing the use of Zoom or another resource to have digital meetings as an option due to emergency road conditions causing an increase in traffic.

A request was made for Ms. Halprin and Ms. Ridgway to provide the events calendars a month in advance. Ms. Halprin agreed.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:39, motion by Ms. Pascale, second by Ms. Jones.