

Wharton Public Library Board of Trustees - Minutes: October 21, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Michele Howe at 7:09pm

Present: Trustees Ana Jones, President Michele Howe, Colleen Pascale, Christopher Roman, Lenore Vasquez (7:18), Amelia Nittolo **Also in attendance:** Virginia Halprin, Library Director **Absent:** Deb DeMattio

Public Notice - Read aloud by Mrs. Howe: 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 - Two changes made to September 16, 2025 minutes: add "Kelly" as Charlotte's last name, and under Library Director's Report, second bullet point change "ABC gave..." to "ABC will give us..." Motion to approve the minutes from September 2025 meeting: Ms. Jones, seconded by Ms. Pascale.

Correspondence

- Estimate from Weiss Distributors for the alarm system. They indicated that changing over from ABCode would be expensive. ABC has not given estimate yet, but library has been paying for a panic button that was never connected. Discussion of having ABC repair the system with a credit having been charged for a service that was not connected, and ask Chief Young to be present for the repair.
- Ms. Halprin indicated that Yolanda left and there is no one to print POs for bill payment in Mr. Kovalcik's absence. Ana Jones to assist. Ms. Halprin advised of budget transfer by Chief Young in order print PO. Virginia advised 2 vendors of delay in payment for this reason.

Committee Report: Finance Committee and Treasurer's Report: Motion to pass resolution 61, bills list totaling \$3,884.63 by Ms. Pascale; second Mr. Roman; approved.

President's Report: Mrs. Howe:

- Friends funds transfer remains on hold pending Mr. Kovalcik's return.
- Issue with a patron drinking coffee in the library. Mrs. Halprin stepped in.
- The new Superintendent of the Wharton Schools will be the liaison, with Mrs. Nittolo as alternate.

Library Director's Report Highlights:

- Discussion regarding HVAC vent which will be addressed
- All projects proposed by Ms. Halprin were approved by town except bathroom remodel.
- State aid check was deposited.
- Five staff members have been trained in CPR, there is an AED defibrillator in the library as well.
- EPI pen on site discussion, w/staff certified to administer; Ms. Pascale said she would research.
- Two Hispanic Heritage Month programs held at the library were successful.
- New book vendor found as the previous one is going out of business.
- Donation was made by the family of the late Charlotte Kelly for a plaque in her name to the Friends of the Library; Ms. Halprin will create a receipt for a future audit.
- Displays created for the books from Lisa Libraries Grant.

Public Portion - No members of the public were present.

Old Business – None

New Business – Trustee shared conversation overheard about how kind the staff at the Wharton Library is. A puppet theater was built by former student as Scout project - puppet show performed for story time.

Adjournment – Motion to adjourn at 8:02pm by Ms. Pascale, seconded by Ms. Jones- all in favor.
Meeting adjourned at 8:02pm