

Trustees of the Lambertville Free Public Library
Minutes July 8, 2025, 7PM
Lambertville Free Public Library
6 Lilly St., Lambertville, NJ 08530
Meeting was held in person and via Zoom

The virtual meeting of the Trustees of the Lambertville Free Public Library was called to order at 7:00 PM by Karen Riedeburg. In addition to Ms. Riedeburg, present were Library Director Jennifer Sirak, Trustees Stephanie Volmer, Albert Bauer, Amy Connelly, Walt Jimenez, Kathleen Harris, and Kate Winslow (all via Zoom).

In compliance with the open public meetings act, it was announced that this was the July 8 meeting of the Trustees, which had been published in The Times of Trenton and filed with the City Clerk for posting on the bulletin board located in City Hall.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes, amended to show that Ed Hoag was in attendance, from the June 10, 2025, meetings were approved unanimously.

Treasury Report

The bills were presented, and the motion to pay prepaid and unpaid bills totaling \$14,705.71 was unanimously approved (resolution 021-2025). There was an additional motion to pay electrician Fred Nanni's bill for all the new lighting (\$10,165.00), which was unanimously approved.

Director's Report by Jen Sirak

- The exterior painters are finished, as well are most of the other contractors.
- Jen presented the proposed temporary banner for the board to comment on. It was suggested that we translate the sign to Spanish as well, so we will send the new wording to River Signs to mock up again.
- The pods are due to arrive next week, hopefully one at a time, so they can be unloaded carefully. Unpacking creates a lot of empty boxes, and they need to be dealt with too. The board will look into hiring movers for unloading the pods, so library employees and the board can focus on unpacking and organizing.
- Jen suggested that the library reopen the last weekend in July, with the public opening happening July 28 or 29. The week of July 21 will be a busy one, and the board will need to pitch in to get all tasks done. Community Outreach suggests that the donor sneak peek takes place on the afternoon of Sunday, July 27 (2-4 pm), followed immediately by a staff party, and the grand opening can happen on Monday or Tuesday (need to check with the mayor and council to make sure they can attend).
- Door news: focusing on doing extensive repairs to the three exterior doors; the interior doors also need repairs, but we will put these off until later.
- Jen has investigated a new cleaning company, which is more local and about \$20 more/month than the former Bristol company.

- Annie has been working her way through our backlog of old finance records.
- We did receive the check for our 250th anniversary grant; we won't get started on that until October.
- The new elevator company came out for measurements and will install in December. We will have a localized monitored fire system; not as extensive as we originally thought but definitely better than what we have now.
- ALA was fantastic and busy.

Children's Librarian Report

- Though I haven't ordered anything new for the kids' and teens' collection, I was able to stay at the ALA Conference until the last day when many vendors were giving out some fantastic new hardcover books, for all ages. I was also able to preview many books that I look forward to ordering when the library reopens!
- Summer Reading is here! We've got a good amount of participants in the actual reading challenge even with the current displacement. I have a Summer Reading station set up in City Hall in the meantime. Our first two events were massive successes! Eyes of the Wild: Exotic Animal Presentation had about 70-80 attendees and Touch-A-Truck is approximated at about 110 attendees. Everyone had a blast at both events, and we're looking forward to our next Wednesday night library events: Cartooning Workshop with Mike Dawson, SPLASH Floating Classroom, Mad Science: Slime Time, and Ben's Balloon Twisting. We also had our first Birdhouse Music event and first Bouncy Book at Mary Sheridan Park, which did have lower but enthusiastic attendance due to being July 4th weekend and high heat/humidity, respectively. Regular Bouncy Book Time has taken off with the addition of our Lambertville Academy friends. They always arrive excited and ready to sing, read, and dance!
- The kids' and teens' space renovations are still going well. The mural is close to completion, the furniture is ready to be ordered, the new bulletin board is installed, and the chimney flue-block and re-framing of the picture going over the fireplace are well on their way to completion. Shelves that have been moved will be re-labeled according to the color/shelf system.

Committee Reports

- a. Buildings and Grounds: no report
- b. Community Outreach: Working on planning the sneak peek party, staff party and grand reopening. Also looking forward to the 100th anniversary of being a public library—revisit the One Book idea (possible more community-minded 100 top books as picked by locals?).
- c. Finance: See above
- d. Policy: no report
- e. Strategic Planning: no report

Correspondence

No correspondence.

New Business

No new business.

Public Comment

No public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.