

Trustees of the Lambertville Free Public Library
Minutes June 10, 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 June 10 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 from the May 13, 2025, meetings were approved unanimously.

Treasury Report

The bills were presented, and the motion to pay open bills totaling \$88,766.46 was unanimously approved, but the resolution needs to be amended to reflect the proper total (resolution 020-2025).

Director's Report by Jen Sirak

- Please thank Mayor Nowick and City Council for their strong support and cooperation with the renovation project.
- The new elevator is going to come soon, perhaps at the end of August. With it comes the installation of a full fire suppression system that will be monitored—this is huge!
- A Little Free Food Pantry, donated by Fisherman's Mark, has been installed by the entry of the library. This will be a wonderful asset to the library and to the community. We will look into getting it primed and painted to match the library.
- There is a large wedding at City Hall on Saturday, and while we are allowed to stay in the building for another week past that date to get Summer Reading started, we do need to plan on getting moved out of the pop-up space. We will need to shift everything out of the front of the space for the wedding; we will need help on Friday around lunchtime to move items. We need to be out fully by June 24-25.
- We will have a period with no library for a couple of weeks; we may open up on the side porch. To be discussed further.
- We hope the library can reopen by mid-July. Jen plans to take a couple of weeks off at the end of July (comp time), and a couple of weeks off at the end of September (vacation).
- Anniversary plans are going to be scaled back a bit, but there will still be quite a bit going on.

- Exterior signage—we will look into a temporary banner to have in place for the grand reopening, and spend more time to come up with a permanent sign design.

Children’s Librarian Report

- There have been no new acquisitions for the children’s and teens’ collections due to the renovations. We’ve been limiting the number of incoming books due to our limited space at City Hall, but I will be restarting the book ordering, including our incoming J Nonfiction overhaul order, after we are back in the Library building.
- Kalmia’s donation drive for the library – specifically for children’s books in Spanish and for Wonderbooks/Vox Books (books for all ages with built-in, preloaded MP3 audiobooks, which are great for language learning) – was a wonderful success! I was incredibly grateful just to be invited, but they ended up raising a whopping \$865 for the children’s collection. We will be able to do some amazing things for this part of the collection with this donation!
- The LPS/SHRES Summer Reading School Visits were also a rousing success! Fran helped me plan and accompanied me for many of the visits, since it’s always more fun to be able to work with a partner! We dressed up as in a classic “artist” costume, with colorful Summer Reading shirts, berets, mustaches, and paint brushes. We told each class about the Summer Reading program and events, and told them a little bit about the library renovation. We ended by having a table in the school courtyard with Summer Reading handouts, buttons, bookmarks, and lollipops! I’ll also be dropping off handouts at the Middle and High School libraries.
- Speaking of which, Summer Reading is almost upon us! We’ve got Touch-A-Truck for kickoff, SPLASH Floating Classroom, Mad Science: Slime Time, Cartooning Workshop with Mike Dawson, Eyes of the Wild: Animal Presentation, Ben’s Balloon Twisting, LEGO Club, and more! All of the handouts are well on their way to being done since I was able to hook up our copier.
- Bouncy Book Time and tutoring continue to run successfully at the ACME/Justice Center. The tutors have been very flexible with all of the scheduling changes. Bouncy Book Time attendance has returned to normal levels as it is in the library. On June 24, the Lambertville Academy summer program will start attending storytime with their group of 17 to 20. Due to popular demand of my regulars enjoying the smaller storytime group, I’m trying to add a Bouncy Book Time: At the Park to the schedule in July – I’m just waiting for approval from the Parks & Rec Committee.
- The kids’ and teens’ space renovations are going amazingly. Hope Gaburo is almost done with one side of the E Room mural, and will be moving on to bring some bright, beautiful flowers to what we previously dubbed “the sad corner,” and then finishing by painting the fireplace insert. The carpets are looking lovely in their spaces with the wall colors. My father is helping me create an insert to block the still-functional but rusty chimney damper in the J Room so that it doesn’t leak dust onto the newly, beautifully painted fireplace. We may also be re-insulating the E Room fireplace, since we’re not entirely confident in the state of the current insulation. With the chimney caps, there will definitely be no more winter breeze through the fireplace! Furniture is all picked out with the current budget – some pieces had to be substituted as certain chairs were no longer

for sale. Wonderful Jill from City Hall is donating two 8-12 year old sized rolling chairs for a small desk area I'm planning – we always need more workspace here!

Committee Reports

- a. Buildings and Grounds: no report
- b. Community Outreach: no report
- 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 8:20 pm.

