

**Board of Trustees
Monroe Free Library
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting (held at MFL)
Date: July 13, 2026**

Trustees Present:

Patricia Shanley, President
Susan Tomaski, Vice-President
Diane Egan – Secretary
David Joye

Nedda Tichi
Kathleen Bayer

Trustees Not Present:

Casey Auerbach, Treasurer

Nucula Brown

Also Present:

Mary Duffy, Assistant Director
Joanne Movrich
Lauren Peifer

Via Zoom:

Mike Maginn
Sue Johnson

Kevin Gonzales

1-3 The meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance recited at 7:32. A **QUORUM** was present.

A) A MOTION to adopt the agenda was made by Nedda Tichi, seconded by Kathleen Bayer. The MOTION passed unanimously.

C). A MOTION was made by Diane Egan, seconded by Nedda Tichi to accept the minutes of the May 2026 and the June 2026 meetings. The MOTION passed unanimously.

4. **Public Comment** –. There was no Public Comment

5. **Directors Report:** An in-depth Directors Report was submitted to the Board for review by the Library Director prior to the meeting. Some of the highlights of the report were discussed at the meeting.

- The Library Director shared some Programming and Circulation Statistics from the month of June with the Board: The Movies on the Lawn attracted 57 attendees; Total Circulation increased from 2025-26- notably circulation from MWCS users CD and DVD collections.
- Young Adult Services Coordinator Position filled - Alyana Depalma has started as our Young Adult Services Coordinator. She is already executing programs, staffing the desk and proactively helping our patrons in the children's area.
- We had our summer reading kick off on Saturday June 27. Despite it being a rainy day, we still had a great turn out and signed up 75 children. At our kickoff we had a live local band, games and sweet treats for our community.

- Movies on Lawn Movies on the lawn have returned and on June 26, we had 57 attend our first movie. These outdoor movies continue to be a popular summertime program with our patrons. Our next movie is Friday, July 17th and we will be showing The Garfield Movie
- The Board received the MFL 2027 Budget Narrative and 2027 Proposed MFL Budget from the Library Director prior to the meeting The recommended budget continues to provide a realistic income, provides several salary scenarios to anticipate the upcoming union negotiations and reallocation of funds where needed based on last year's trends and what we know about next year's needs.
- MFL received an email from the office of Senator Skoufis that the library would be receiving \$8,928 from NYS to be put towards Youth programs. They anticipate we will receive the funds in early 2027. Some ideas discussed were The Story Walk, Literacy Kits and a Reading Festival.
- Our summer reading press release and our movies on the lawn press release were both published in print and online format in the Photos News Newspaper.
- The new patron email campaign is set to launch. This campaign will include a series of 3 spaced out emails to introduce our library to new patrons and to encourage them to actively use their library card. This will launch in the upcoming week. We can only send these emails to patrons who agree to receive our emails, but this will allow us to see if our campaign is making a difference since we will can compare their card use to the new patrons who do not receive these emails.
- We were approached by the company who creates the ads that play before the movie to see if we were interested in advertising. We met with a representative to get the logistics and pricing. The pricing model was presented. The Board suggested we follow up and further evaluate.
- Comments from Patrons were read by the Library Director. Two suggestions were made: extending the time for computer sessions and adding more graphic novels to our collection.

6. **Treasurers Report.** –

- The Treasurer provided the Board with the June Financial Statements prior to the meeting and recommended that we accept them. **A MOTION was made by Kathleen Bayer, seconded by Dave Joye that the Board accept the June Financial Statements as presented. The MOTION passed unanimously.**

7. **Standing Committee Reports**

- Nominating Committee – An applicant, Lauren Peifer attended tonight's meeting as an observer. We welcome her interest in serving.
- Building & Grounds – N/A
- By-Laws Committee – N/A
- Finance – **A MOTION was made by Susan Tomaski, seconded by Nedda Tichi that the Board move into Executive Session at 8:12 to discuss personnel and salary matters. The MOTION was approved unanimously.**

A MOTION was made by Susan Tomaski, seconded by Nedda Tichi to resume public session at 8:34. The MOTION passed unanimously.

2027 Budget increase and petition ballot for 2026 Election THE Board of Trustees has received the required ballot signatures. The board accepts the signatures and will forward them to the Town Clerk this week. **The following MOTION was made by Kathleen Bayer, seconded by Susan Tomaski “WHEREAS there has been presented to the Board of Trustees of the Monroe Free Library a petition signed by qualified voters of the Town of Monroe in a number exceeding 25, asking that the following question be placed upon the ballot and voted on at the next general election of the Town of Monroe : SHALL THE ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE TOWN OF MONROE FOR THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE MONROE FREE LIBRARY BE INCREASED BY \$30,000 DOLLARS TO THE SUM OF \$ 1,561,325 DOLLARS ANNUALLY, and**

WHEREAS the endorsement of this Board of Trustees of the Monroe Free Library is required before such question may be placed upon the ballot NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of Trustees hereby endorses the petition presented to it and directs that the following question be voted on at the next general election of the Town of Monroe: SHALL THE ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE Town of Monroe FOR THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE Monroe Free Library BE INCREASED BY \$30,000 DOLLARS TO THE SUM OF 1,561,325 DOLLARS ANNUALLY
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Fund Raising -N/A.
- Grants. -N/A.
- Library Operations-N/A
- Long Range Planning – -N/A

8. Special Committees – N/A

9. Old Business –

10. New Business – Summer Reading Lawn sign are now available. The adult summer reading program was launched. Mary Duffy reported on the successful Fishing Derby held on 6/27 in which the MFL was represented. 35 children participated and prizes were won by all who participated.

11. Good and Welfare – N/A

12. Call for Adjournment – **A MOTION was made at 8:45 by David Joye,, seconded by Kathleen Bayer, to adjourn the meeting. The MOTION passed unanimously**

Submitted by Diane Egan.

8/10/26