

**Board of Trustees
Monroe Free Library
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting (held at MFL)
Date: March 9, 2026**

Trustees Present:

Susan Tomaski- Vice President
Diane Egan – Secretary
Nucula Brown
Dave Joys
Kathleen Bayer

Patricia Shanley -President (via Zoom)
Nedda Tichi – (via Zoom)

Trustees Not Present:

Casey Auerbach - Treasurer

Also Present:

Amanda Primiano – Library Executive Director
Mary Duffy – Assistant Director MFL
Mary Bingham – Town Board Liaison
Joanne Movrich

Via Zoom:

Mike Maggin
Sara Mallory
Sue Johnson
Danae Drews

GENERAL MEETING

1-3 The meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance recited at 7:37. A **QUORUM** was present. The meeting was chaired by Vice-President Susan Tomaski.

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

C). A MOTION was made by Diane Egan, seconded by Nucula Brown to accept the minutes of the December 2025 meeting. The votes were 4 in favor and 1 abstention (Susan Tomaski) The MOTION did not carry and will be revoted at the April meeting

4. **Public Comment** –N/A

5. **Directors Report:** An in-depth Directors Report was submitted to the Board for review by the Library Director prior to the meeting. Since the meetings in January and February 2026 were cancelled some highlights of the report for both months were discussed by the Director:

- The growth of children’s programming attendance was noted from 130 to 230 from prior year
- Teen Advisory Board Summary: we had TAB's first event planned and run by the teens -The Gingerbread Decorating Contest. 11 families attended the event. 7 teens ran the event, and about 40 people attended it.
- Circulation Statistics were shared with the Board. Overall circulation was down slightly but video games borrowing was up.
- E-Rate and CIPA Compliance MFL is officially CIPA compliant. We have “flipped the switch” and we are compliant with our RCLS and non RCLS hardware.
- The MFL has partnered with O&R to supply “Home Boost Kits” to the public with the goal to increase energy efficiency in patrons’ homes.

- The Children's Department will be hosting a series of programs outside of their normal programming time since the children in our school district will be on spring break. There will be STEM activities, Kurt Gallagher, a visit from Peter Rabbit and more.
- The Management Team sent a draft Dress Code Policy to the chair of the Operating Committee. It is being circulated to the Board and awaiting response before adopting.
- We continue to chip away at the Long-Range Plan goals. At the last staff meeting, the staff addressed LRP G3.03: Purchasing Relevant Technology. Some recommendations were made such as an AI subscription of some sorts, 3D Printer and Virtual Reality/Augmented Reality hardware. These items will be researched and then discussed once more to determine who and how our community and staff would benefit from these technologies.
- Several upcoming RCLS workshops were noted and participation was encouraged.
- Professional Development - Mike Maggin and Amanda Piriano, along with Dr. Sherry Maggin, presented at the Northeast conference for teachers. Amanda also presented with Jen Park and two other colleagues at the New Jersey Library Association Conference. This panel focused on making the transition from academic librarianship to public librarianship.
- The children's department has been reaching out to community organizations to see if they would be able to donate prizes for our summer reading program. To date, they have heard back from 4 organizations.
- The Library Director read a positive Google Review as well as a patron request for more Hebrew books in our collection. She noted we do have a Hebrew book collection and will add to it accordingly.
- RCLS will be "sunsetting" the subscription to Tutor.com. As it is popular with Monroe's patrons, we will continue the subscription at our own expense to better serve our patrons. The MFL will be adding a NY Times online subscription to benefit our patrons. A NYT icon will appear on the library's homepage.
- The Job Fair held at the library was a tremendous success attended by 70 attendees.
- Upcoming projects • Spring Yard Sale April 18th/Rain date May 2. On May 16- MFL will be hosting an Open House event that will welcome current patrons and not yet patrons. It will be a day filled with activities, informational demonstrations and "meet and greets" with staff and hopefully board members.

6. **Treasurers Report.** – Although Treasurer Casey Auerbach was absent, he had submitted via email the Financial Reports for December 2025, January 2026, and February 2026 to the Board. **A MOTION was made by Susan Tomaski, seconded by Kathleen Griffin to accept the Financial Report for December 2025 as presented by the Treasurer. The MOTION was approved unanimously. A MOTION was made by Susan Tomaski, seconded by Nucula Brown to accept the Financial Report for January 2026 as presented by the Treasurer. The MOTION was approved unanimously. A MOTION was made by Susan Tomaski, seconded by Dave Joye to accept the Financial Report for February 2026 as presented by the Treasurer. The MOTION was approved unanimously.**

7. **Standing Committee Reports –**

- Nominating Committee – a flyer has been posted in the lobby of the library to attract library patrons who might be interested in serving on the Board.
- Building & Grounds –New receptacles have been purchased for outside the building.
- By-Laws Committee – N/A
- Finance – N/A – N/A
- Fund Raising – N/A
- Grants. -The NY Forward grants application process is still “paused” until the end of March
- Library Operations- The Board discussed the revised Dress Code policy. The proposed policy will be email to the Board for their input and consideration.
- Long Range Planning – N/A

8. Special Committees – N/A

9. Old Business –

A

Thank You to Mary Duffy for another successful Valentines for Vets program. 50 Valentines were delivered to the American Legion. Mary also reported that the taxpayer support check has been received and deposited

10. New Business - Tax Cap Override- Each year the Board must vote to override the tax cap if necessary. Susan Tomaski read the language if the tax cap override motion before making a MOTION to pass it. The language reads as follows:

“Whereas the adoption of the 2027 budget for the Monroe Free Library may require a tax levy increase that exceeds the tax cap imposed by state law as outlined in General Municipal Law Section 3-c adopted in 2011; and Whereas General Municipal Law Section 3-c expressly permits the library board to override the tax levy limit by a resolution approved by a vote of sixty percent of qualified board members. Now, therefore, be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Monroe Free Library voted and approved to exceed the tax levy limit for 2027 by at least sixty percent of the board of trustees as required by state law on March 9, 2026.”

A MOTION was made by Susan Tomaski, seconded by Nucula Brown, to accept the MOTION as written above. The MOTION was passed unanimously.

At 8:39 A MOTION was made by Susan Tomaski, seconded by Nucula Brown, to suspend the meeting and go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. The MOTION was approved unanimously.

The Executive Session ended and the regular meeting resumed at 8:55

11. Good and Welfare – N/A.

12. Call for Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:56.

Submitted by Diane Egan.