

Veterans Memorial Library Meeting Minutes/Log

May 20, 2025

Trustee	Present	Absent
Bucaro	✓	
Dabal		✓
Diernardo		✓
Graham		✓
Lozanski		✓
Preinfalk	✓	

**Meeting Commenced:** 5:37 p.m.

No Quorum. No official meeting; no votes.

Swore in New Trustee: Kerry Curtin

Library Director advised Ms. Curtin that she planned to meet with her at an agreed time to provide her a tour of the library and give her an overview of its operations and offerings. In the interim of doing this, and because the board meeting could not proceed as scheduled, and because there was no public present, the Library Director provided some introductory information to Ms. Curtin. She discussed the mid-month report that is circulated to the Trustees to keep everyone informed. She also talked about the health of the library's operating and capital accounts, and explained that the library will be receiving \$510K in state funding, along with income from town tax ratables per citizen and business, though the Wallington township does not have many businesses like other neighboring towns.

**Approval of Bills:**

Bills will be recirculated for vote by email to approve disbursements.

**Correspondence:**

The Wallington Veterans Memorial Library recently offered a "Ring Craft" event that was very well received and in demand for another session. The craftsperson, Margaret, is a friend of the Library Director and she offers this artwork when she comes up periodically from Florida. There was an email to the Library Director from one of the Wallington's participants in the Ring Craft who described how much she loved the program, how unique she felt the program was, and how much she hopes it will be offered again.

**Director's Report**

Some highlights were provided to trustees regarding the following:

Friends of the Library (FOL) has five (5) individuals who have been elected to the Executive Board. They are in the process of drafting the bylaws. The new acting President will update the Library Board as to latest developments in one of the coming meetings. At this time, the FOL are planning an event for October 17, 2025 that is meant to solicit sponsors or members of FOL (price to be decided). The event will include incredible attractions, such as penguins, Jenkinson's aquarium, adoptable dogs from Teterboro Animal Shelter, a live band and activities. Once the FOL builds momentum, it will have tiers for higher level sponsorships and plan fundraiser events to support the Wallington Veterans Memorial Library.

The summer reading program has a lot of interest and the Library Director and staff are working hard to incentivize participation with such things as Read & Bead where readers earn beads for jewelry making. The library has also aligned itself with local businesses who are offering coupons for reading.

Readership is increasing thanks to the creative planning of the Library staff. A new MANGA book club of a Japanese comic is very popular with our teen population. Fifteen (15) teens are already attending, of which seven (7) are girls.

The library collection is being carefully selected and expanded. One of the book suppliers, Baker & Taylor has been extensively delayed filling purchase orders. The reason for this is because the distributor is now required to pay an advance on orders, rather than having the stock and paying for books that actually sell. So, Baker & Taylor puts in the orders once they are received from the library, which causes the delay. The Library Director will be attending a sales pitch meeting with Baker & Taylor and its competitor, Ingram to hear what each is offering.