

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Bloomingdale Free Public Library
Regular Meeting of Board of Trustees
May 12, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by Elizabeth Ford at 7:04pm. She announced that the meeting was in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act. In attendance were Trustees Elizabeth Ford, Kelly Graziano, Karen Kirby, Deanne Martini, Andrea Albrecht and Mary Ellen Garrity. Also in attendance was Alexandra DeCesare (Library Director), and Evelyn Schubert (Council Liaison). Trustees Robert Bloodgood and Jennifer Hagin were excused.

Minutes of Prior Regular Meeting – A motion was made to approve the minutes by Deanne Martini, seconded by Karen Kirby. All trustees were in favor.

Public Comment – A motion to open Public Comment was made by Mary Ellen Garrity, seconded by Karen Kirby. With no member of the public coming forth a motion to close was made by Karen Kirby, seconded by Mary Ellen Garrity. All trustees were in favor.

Treasurer's Report / State Aid Report – The report for April was presented by Karen Kirby.

Purchase Order/Budget Report - The reports for April were presented by Allie DeCesare. She noted unusually high bills for PSE&G and advised that she had reached out to Finance to investigate the price increase.

A roll call vote was called by Elizabeth Ford, seconded by Kelly Graziano to approve the Treasurer's Report, the State Aid Report, Purchase Order Report, and the Budget Report. In a roll call vote all Trustees were in favor.

Collection Statistics/ Director's Report - The report for April was presented by Allie DeCesare. A motion to approve the reports was made by Karen Kirby, seconded by Kelly Graziano. In a voice call vote all trustees were in favor.

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Committee Reports:

Budget Committee – The Budget Committee met to discuss the 2025 Library Budget.

Policies and Procedures Committee – No report

Public Relations Committee – No report.

Grants and Funding Committee – No report

Board of Education Committee – Andrea Albrecht informed the Board that she had spoken to the Superintendent about partnering with the library for use of digital materials.

The superintendent then reached out to the Library Director and information for parents was sent out in the Virtual Backpack.

Literacy Foundation – The Literacy Foundation will present two 2025 Jo-Anne Crawford Memorial Scholarships at the June 9 Trustee Meeting.

Unfinished Business and General Orders –

Elizabeth Ford led the Trustees through a strategic planning exercise. All present brainstormed key phrases or principles that they thought were essential to the library and wrote them on Post-It notes. The Trustees then organized the Post-It notes by commonality.

New Business –

Allie DeCesare informed the Board that the Municipality was transitioning to a new water system for drinking water. She recommended that the Library join the Borough's contract to install a reverse osmosis system in the library. The Board approved contingent upon being able to be added to the existing contract. Any new contract will need to be brought to the Board for review.

Public Session – A motion to open Public Session was made at 8:36pm by Karen Kirby, seconded by Kelly Graziano. With no member of the public coming forward, a motion was made to close Public Session was made by Karen Kirby, seconded by Andrea Albrecht. In a voice vote all trustees were in favor.

Adjournment - A motion to adjourn was made at 8:37pm by Karen Kirby seconded by Kelly Graziano. In a voice vote all trustees were in favor.

Submitted by Alexandra DeCesare