

Grove City Community Library

Board Minutes

May 6, 2025

(1) Board Members attending: Carla Ligo, Sarah Johnston, Heather Leskanic, Lydia Speice

Absent/Excused: Dave Kershaw, Vince DiStasi, Zack Bombatch, Melissa Broerman, Meghann Kelly

Interim Director attending: Scott Amon

Employees Attending: none

(2) Carla called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Meeting date was changed due to some members' having other events or activities scheduled for May 8.

(3) Due to lack of quorum, no voting was made regarding minutes or bills to be paid.

(4) Director's Report (from Carla):

- Carla announced that Zack asked to be relieved of his position as fundraising committee chairman. He expressed that he was concerned it was having a detrimental effect on friendships with staff and board. Meghann and Melissa, who are both involved with the Friends of the Library volunteer group, will serve on the board's fundraising committee. Carla said she was glad Zack is agreeing to remain a board member because his legal expertise is very beneficial.
- Total upcoming library expenses for the month amount to \$12,630. Available account balance as of May 6 totals \$76,890.
- Board treasurer Sarah said she has reached out to Farmers bank regarding being added as a signor for issuing checks. Carla and Heather L. are currently signors. Sarah is also continuing to review bank statements and investments. Direct deposit is now being offered for employees.
- Staff and board members were asked to write testimonials about what the GC library means to them and what can be done to help the library

regain financial stability for the future and keep its doors open. These testimonials will be displayed around the library, on the TV monitor, and in the newsletter. In addition, a letter outlining how much it costs to run the library (\$220,000 a year) and where the money comes from will be tucked inside books and materials as they are being checked out by patrons. This is all part of the effort to raise awareness of the library's urgent need for financial contributions, including recurring monthly donations. Circulation statistics should be strong evidence of how busy our library is and how many items are being checked out each month, Heather L. noted. Carla said she plans to speak with the borough's financial committee and notify the local newspapers about the situation. Lydia said we can see what grants could be available to us thru the Carnegie Library system.

- GCHS theater students, led by Boston Tkacik and Robert Speice, will host a mystery theater event May 17 at the library. All proceeds will benefit the GC library. Attendees will pay at the door the day of the event. There will also be a bake sale.

(5) Typically, the board does not hold meetings in July or August for summer break. However, Carla said it would be a good idea for board to continue to meet regularly this summer due to urgent situation.

(6) Library Director's Report (from Scott):

- Received GC boro payment of \$14,000 in late April. Will ask that townships of Pine, Liberty and Wolf Creek issue their payments to us earlier than usual. This local municipal income should amount to at least \$18,000.
- \$10,000 deposited as a result of ALA grant for new bookdrop project.
- Will use United Way funds to purchase new laptop for program room.
- Met with Andrew from New Castle Library District. The Seneca, New Castle, Oil City and Erie library system collaboration has removed the NC district, which includes GC, from its service area. This means there will be no collaboration with those libraries for ebook circulation thru Libby.

Scott said he also discussed with Andrew how our library can secure additional grants.

- The FOL is working on a gift card raffle.
- Fandomfest is May 10 at the GC Masonic Hall. All board members invited to stop by.
- Upcoming closures are scheduled for May 9 (scheduled power outage) and May 26 for Memorial Day.

(7) Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Heather Leskanic, board secretary, on May 27, 2025.