

**The Community Library  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
February 13, 2025**

**Call to Order:**

As a quorum was present, President Becky Leggieri called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Present: Pat Adams, Fred Barnes, Cindy Barton, Sandy Brewster, Virginia Downs, Becky Leggieri, Janet Sand, Julia Walter, Kim Zimmer. Excused: Linda Carpenter (treasurer), Harriet Berard, Nathan Davis.

**Guests:**

Ms. Sandy Poole, representing the Cobleskill Historical Society, and Ms. Denise Klug, a potential trustee, attended the meeting. Ms. Lex Lanza, the new Librarian I for Adult Services introduced herself to the trustees.

**Minutes:**

Ms. Walter moved to accept the revised January minutes. Ms. Adams seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

**Communications:**

Ms. Leggieri indicated that she was sending a letter to MVLS regarding the staff receiving phishing emails.

**Director's Report:**

Ms. Zimmer reported that she was working on the annual report, and it would be ready for approval at the March meeting.

There have been problems with the fire alarm panel

Ms. Zimmer described Ms. Lex Lanza's qualifications and asked the trustees to approve her appointment. Ms. Walter made a motion, seconded by Ms. Brewster, and the board unanimously approved Ms. Lanza's appointment to the Librarian I Adult position.

Ms. Zimmer asked Brendan Becker to provide the trustees with an update on the Annex.

Mr. Becker outlined:

- a. Most of the windows and framing done, but due to the weather not completed.
- b. Change of plans regarding the duct work, so there will be an amendment to the DLD grant
- c. He suggested applying for another preservation grant.

**Friends:**

Mrs. Barton indicated that the Friends have 28 members in 2025. Members are volunteering to help with the spring 2025 elementary and middle school Battle of the Books. The members decided to take part in the village Soup Stroll. Mrs. Barton asked trustees to participate and to provide recipes and needed spices by March 1.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Mrs. Downs presented the treasurer's report. Mrs. Downs made a motion to pay the bills and the motion was unanimously approved.

**Committee Reports:**

Finance:

Ms. Zimmer presented Lynette Lawyer, the bookkeeper's, 2025 contract, after discussion, Mrs. Downs made a motion to accept the amended contract, and it was unanimously approved.

The trustees reviewed the proposed 2026 budget, and Ms. Zimmer was able to provide detailed information regarding increased costs including salaries and utilities. After discussion, it was determined that it would be necessary to override the tax cap.

Mrs. Downs presented the resolution:

*“Whereas, the adoption of this 2026 budget for The Community Library in Cobleskill, NY, 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 Community Library voted and approved to exceed the tax levy limit for 2026, if necessary, by at least the sixty percent of the board of trustees as required by state law on February 13, 2025.*

This resolution was unanimously approved.

**Building & Grounds:**

The trustees decided that the storage unit is still necessary. After discussion, Mr. Barnes made a motion, seconded by Ms. Walter, and was unanimously approved to pay AVerdi’s cost of \$85 per month.

Mrs. Barton shared a sketch of a possible remodeled exterior sign.

**Personnel:**

Ms. Zimmer explained that the staff had requested July 5 as a paid holiday. After discussion, the topic was tabled.

The board discussed the Integra Human Resource proposal. The trustees decided that additional information was needed before making a decision.

**Policy:**

Mrs. Sand explained that the Posting Policy had been reviewed and there were no changes. The Naming Rights Policy had been edited to reflect suggestions. Mrs. Sand moved to accept both policies and they were both unanimously approved.

**Board Development:**

Ms. Adams presented the revised By-Laws and asked trustees to review the document.

**Long Range Plan:**

Mr. Barnes indicated that the committee is beginning their five-year update with a “kick-off” scheduled for February 14, 12:00-2:00

**Adjournment:**

Mr. Barnes made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Adams, and was unanimously approved at 3:40.

**Submitted by Virginia Downs**