

Minutes: Board of Trustees, The Field Library, Monthly Meeting

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Present: President Douglas
Treasurer Noble
Secretary Fortino
Director Hysell

Trustees Present: Galella, Grimshaw, Kelley, Levine, Most, Srinivasan
Trustees Absent (Excused): Bloom, Spencer

Guest(s) Present: Deputy Mayor Riley

Meeting called to order 7:01PM

Public comment: None

Adoption of Minutes

No quorum to adopt minutes. Both Douglas and Noble were absent for the April meeting. The April minutes will be brought back for adoption at the June meeting.

Director's Report: Report accepted as offered.

Treasurer's Report: Report accepted as offered. **Budget:** salaries remain under budget due to restructuring and vacancies during the year to date. **Investments:** down 1% in March and down 0.5% in April. Year to Date, we are up 0.64%. The balance is \$795,139. Correction to February's Treasurer's Report: the January monthly performance should have been reported as up 1.5%. Correction to March's Treasurer's Report: the Year-to-Date performance should have been up 2.21%.

2026 Tax Levy: Proposed increase of \$110,000 (6.2%). Major factors impacting the increase are a \$60k increase in healthcare/pension/workers compensation; \$20k for a new security camera system; and a projected decrease of \$16k in revenue received from the Town of Cortlandt.

Statistics: Discrepancy with Children's Room statistics; door count most inaccurate.

WLS Report: Kelley will be emailing the Board WLS 'report

Grants: Director's Report

Committee Reports

Audit: The audit report has been received on May 15th. A clean audit report has been issued by the auditors for the 2024 accounts. Audit committee will be meeting the auditors to go through the audit and will report on it at the June BOT meeting.

Executive Committee: No report

Facilities Committee: Director's Report; safety issues have been addressed by the City.

Finance Committee: The Finance committee met on May 8th to draft proposed budget submitted at today's Board of Trustees meeting.

Fund-raising Committee: The outreach continues to secure sponsors for the Peekskill Film Festival.

Governance: No report.

Human Resource: No report

Nominating: The standing committees are charged with reviewing and finalizing their corresponding charters, to be submitted at the upcoming June Board of Trustees meeting. An orientation packet will be created for new Trustees.

Discussion Item(s):

- a. Peekskill Film Festival
Discussion for next year's Film Festival: continue to seek community partners, specifically reach out to the two Peekskill arts organizations to become collaborators for 2026 festival.
- b. Bookstore
Director Hysell will be meeting with landlord. Discussion on exploring options to : quarterly book sale, decreasing the number of days the bookstore is open, work with other bookstores.
- c. Change to Library Hours
Move to accept the proposed new library hours by Most, seconded by Noble.
Unanimously passed.

Old Business: Website development is underway.

New Business:

- a. Draft 2026 Budget for Tax Levy
TAX CAP RESOLUTION. The following motion was made by Kelley, seconded by Galella, unanimously passed:

WHEREAS the adoption of this 2026 budget for The Field 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 LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of The Field Library voted and approved to exceed the tax levy limit for 2026 by at least the sixty percent of the board of trustees as required by state law on May 15th, 2025.

Draft 2026 Budget for Tax Levy

On the motion to adopt the proposed increase of \$110,000 (6.2%) for 2026 Tax Levy budget moved by Most, seconded by Levine. Unanimously approved.

b. Head of Circulation

Move to accept position for Head of Circulation by Noble, seconded by Grimshaw. Unanimously passed.

c. June Board Meeting Schedule Conflict

The scheduled June 26th Board meeting needs to be rescheduled. Director Hysell will send out email to Board members to poll which of these two dates, June 12th or the 17th, is best to hold June Board of Trustee meeting.

Moved to adjourn to Executive Session 7:55pm.

Moved by Srinivasan and seconded by Galella. Unanimously Approved.

Moved to exit Executive Session by Most and seconded by Kelley. Unanimously approved.

Moved to adjourn meeting by Most and seconded by Kelley. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned: 8:55pm

Next meeting June date TBD

Submitted by Catalina Fortino

Pending adoption by Board of Trustees in June 2025