

**Petoskey District Library
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 PM by President Kim Block.

Present: Kim Block, Laura Dinon, Ann Ingles, Amy Janssens, Trevor Nelson, Val Meyersen (Library Director) and Brady Olson (student) All Board members were present.

Agenda: The agenda was approved by unanimous consent with no changes.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the regular meeting of April 24, 2025 were approved by unanimous consent.

Approval of Bills: Payment of the April 2025 bills was approved by unanimous consent.

Treasurer's Report on Financial Statements: Trevor stated that the financial statements continue to look good, with revenues exceeding expenses.

Reports:

- Friends of the Library - Merry Baxter reported that due to the opening of the McLean and Eakin used book store downtown the Friends have initiated a social media campaign to advertise their used book store on the lower level of the library and have already noticed a growing response. Lori Smith described plans by the Friends fundraising committee for a Night at the Library event on October 9 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM with the theme "The Other Side of the Story". The Friends are requesting permission to use the library building for the fundraiser and also an early closing that day in order to set up for the event.
*Amy moved and Laura seconded to approve the use of the library building on Thursday, October 9, 2025 by the Friends of the Petoskey Public Library for a fundraiser, including an early closing time to be determined by the Library Director.
The motion carried unanimously.
- Comments/questions from Township Representatives - None
- Director's Report - Val provided a written report and a print copy of the Annual Report for 2024. She and the staff are busy planning specifics around the new strategic plan. Due to an issue that popped up the new roof will now be completed on Saturday, with clean-up scheduled for Tuesday, May 27. A new shelver, Allie Muir, has just been hired.

Val met with City Manager Shane Horn recently to discuss details about using the Carnegie building as an emergency shelter in the event of future disasters in the area. They also discussed rebonding as a possible future revenue source for large scale capital improvements at the library. Val reported that the city manager is very interested in

maintaining the close relationship enjoyed by the library and the city. She is currently working on learning more about new regulations involving youth employment and volunteering.

Board Members' Comments: Kim thanked the Friends for creating and maintaining the library used book store. She also thanked Brady for his service as student trustee and presented him with a gift from the Board. Brady thanked the Board for providing him with the experience as student board member. Amy enjoyed Megan's presentation at Sheridan School about opportunities at the library and praised the staff for going into the schools to provide information. Amy also reported hearing positive feedback about the tutoring program.

Unfinished Business: New Student Trustee

Kim notified the Board that the committee has chosen Moira Donahoe as the new student trustee.

New Business:

1. Communication Tool - Due to frustration surrounding the current system of Board email communication, finding a new method which would be easier to use while still preserving Board communications into the future was discussed. After hearing several possible solutions, Val said she will report back with alternatives.
2. Request for floating holiday paid hours for part-time staff - Val had provided details of this request in the board packet. The purpose is to provide equity for part-time staff, who make up 45% of the team. She calculated the annual cost would be approximately \$5000. After discussion
*Laura moved and Ann seconded to approve the request for floating holiday paid hours for part-time staff. The motion carried unanimously.
3. Request for increased longevity pay for staff - Details of this proposal were also provided in the board packet. After much discussion, with every board member commenting, it was determined to return to this issue at a later date, such as when discussing the 2026 budget.

Public Comments: Garrett Muir of Bear Creek Township noted that the Michigan Municipal League is a good resource for information about salaries, benefits, etc. provided by other organizations around the state. He also observed that record breaking inflation in Michigan has likely affected many workers.

Adjournment: Kim adjourned the meeting at 6:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Ingles, Secretary

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