

**Abington Public Library  
Board of Library Trustees**

Meeting Minutes

July 14, 2025

Called to Order 7:03 pm

**Attendees:**

Henry DiCarlo, Chair  
Mary Gillis  
Laura Brink  
Jake O'Neill  
Gerry Haas  
John Leahy  
Sue Crowley  
Deborah Grimmatt, Library Director

**Absent:**

Barbara McLaughlin  
Gail Bergin, Vice Chair

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

- Minutes of the meeting held on June 9, 2025, were reviewed by the Board.  
**MOTION to approve June 9, 2025, minutes was made by John, seconded by Gerry, and accepted unanimously.**

**Chairman's Report**

- Day Lily Sale was this past Saturday. The sale wasn't as well attended as it has been in the past. The library will receive about \$300.
- Community Band concert was last night. Library chairs were used for the concert.

**Library Director's Report**

- Monthly Financial Report: Monthly and FY25 year-end reports reviewed by the trustees. All funds in the FY25 budget were expended to within two dollars. The book line item was over budget but was made up with other line items.

- Statistical Report: The Board reviewed the FY25 statistical summary report and the Monthly Statistics for June. Physical and digital circulation was up year over year for FY25, and it was the largest annual circulation for the library. June was a busy month, most likely due to a well-attended summer reading kick-off.
- Friends Update: Currently on summer hiatus and their next meeting will be in September. Raffle tickets are being sold for the Back-to-School baskets.
- OCLN Update: A recommendation for the ILS System should be made within the next two weeks.
- Programming Update: Summer reading is up and running and going well. Deb and Heidi have both read books to campers at Eager Beaver. Deb did a story time for students in the Abington Public Schools ESY program.
- Whitman override vote didn't pass so they are cutting library hours. Abington Public Library is expecting an influx of patrons when the Whitman library is closed. Wednesday morning toddler times have been full to capacity over the last couple of weeks since Whitman closed on Wednesday mornings.

### **Building Issues**

- A/C Study: The building was surveyed, and Deb is waiting for results.
- Outdoor Benches: Need to have a sub-committee meeting so we can apply for CPA grant money and the deadline is the end of September.

### **Current Library Issues**

- Summer Reading Program: Feedback from patrons has been positive, program attendance is high and reading hours are already coming in from adults and children. Over 125 patrons came through the library for the mobile touch tank from the Mystic Aquarium which was funded through State Aid.
- IMLS/MBLC Update: The MBLC submitted some expenditures for reimbursement and have received payment, but the federal government's fiscal year ends in September, so they are not expecting that to continue.
- FY27 Early Budget Planning: The Town Manager expects to need an override for level services budget for FY27 due to the lack of federal money coming to

Abington through the state. Department heads will meet again in September for further discussions and planning.

- Summer StoryWalk®: Working well. The second book will be installed next week. Feedback from patrons is all positive.

### **Old Business**

- Website Transition Update: Website will be moving to new vendor in August.

### **New Business**

- Borrowing Policies OCLN Standardization Addendum: The trustees reviewed addendum to APL's Policy which will update our policy if the OCLN Standardization committee changes network policy. **MOTION to approve the updated Volunteer Policy was made by Gerry, seconded by Sue, and accepted unanimously.**
- Envisionware Cloud Nine Service Upgrade: Software used to sign up to use library computers is out of date. The library will be migrating to Cloud Nine services. The cost is slightly higher than the current system, but it is easier to use and will save staff time.
- Hoopla: Trustees reviewed Hoopla statistics. Some libraries are limiting the number of items borrowed per patron. APL will keep the limit to 10 borrows per month per patron for the current year.
- Programming Funding Discussion: Expenses for crayons, games, puzzles, etc. do not come out of the Town Budget but it is paid for by State Aid or Trust Funds. The library will be more consistent with advertising how the programs are funded so the public is aware of funding sources.
- OCLN Email: OCLN is looking to upgrade the email policies which will require new email addresses. The changes will begin in September.

**Next Meetings:   September 8<sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm  
                          October 6<sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm  
                          November 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 7 pm**

**MOTION to adjourn the meeting was made at 8:24 pm by Gerry, seconded by Mary, and accepted unanimously.**