

**Berkshire Free Library
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
at the Berkshire Free Library
July 8, 2025**

Present: Carol Leigh, Nancy Lohmann, John Stoughton, Brenda Yaples, Janice Merrill, Lisa Michaud, Barbara Schwartz, Fran Miller and guests Sue Ford and Kathy Hartman.

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 AM by President John Stoughton. There were no changes to the Agenda.

REPORTS

Secretary: Minutes of the June 10, 2025 meeting were read. Under Old Business: Blueberry & Book Festival, change to “Lisa made a motion that we hire Rebecca Kasparek to make balloon animals for the kids at \$250 for 4 hours.” No other changes were requested.

Treasurer: Carol noted that on the Balance Sheet under Other Current Assets she added the word “Legacy” to the NBT Patch Trust Savings for purposes of identification. John talked with Becky Howland and Carol Kania and we now have a 7-page history of the Patch Fund, in Carol Leigh’s computer. Penny will do a special presentation for the Patch reunion this weekend. Carol also noted that the new fuel tank is coming in today. There were no further questions of the Treasurer.

Director: Fran report showed steady attendance and computer use. Two Sciencenter passes were bought, each allowing a family entrance for free for one week. Summer program needs volunteer workers each Wednesday. Sciencenter will come July 15 and 22. Lunches to be eaten at that program location will be delivered Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to cover all 5 days. Yet again the Library has been called “Berkshire Academy” by the Owego entity that advertises the lunch program. Fran had a couple of requests of all those who have a key to the Library – go in and out of the same door and be sure they are locked when you leave, and be sure the toilet if used has flushed properly and the pump has done running.

Barbara moved and Brenda seconded a motion to accept the above reports as given, and it was passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Grants: South Central grant is being sought, and Trustees suggested we ask for tables and chairs, and book sale storage shelving. The Senior Citizen’s Healthy Living grant could be used for a crafters’ tables and chairs; Carol Leigh will check on what that grant may be used for.

Online Book Sales/Book Sale: Online sales were about \$156, still no exact figure available to report.

Building Updates: Lisa reported that SHPO, since there is no person for Tioga County, had her work with Daniel Boggs to apply for a consultation to take care of what a historic status building required. We need to write down our priorities for the building update.

Blueberry & Book Festival: A sheet listing thank yous to be sent was passed around to add names from the various projects of the festival. Janice asked about tables and chairs to be placed under the tent for dining, and Kathy Hartman said she would bring some tables, with chairs coming from the fire hall. Volunteer response has not been too great; still need help with Bouncy House (poster with rules is done), and Cheryl needs help with its setup and take down. Need 3 judges for the parade total, have Carol Leigh and Barbara Schwartz. Note blueberry picking will be open next week on shares for the pancake breakfast. We should plan to be here at 6:30 AM on the 19th. If Negus’ don’t have enough berries we could ask Gary’s Berries from Candor to attend – 607-341-1399.

NEW BUSINESS

Summer Programs: covered under Director's Report.

New Member: Janice reported that Don Murch is in rehab and is not well. She moved that the balance of Don's term be filled by Sue Ford. Nancy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Thank you, Sue!

ROUND TABLE

Nothing to share.

There being no further business to conduct, Nancy moved for adjournment, Barbara seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Merrill, Secretary