

**Berkshire Free Library
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
at the Berkshire Free Library
March 10, 2026**

Present: Nancy Lohmann, Carol Leigh, Barbara Schwartz, Janice Merrill, Fran Miller, John Stoughton, Lisa Michaud, Sue Ford and Denny Dyer.

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 AM by President John Stoughton. No changes to the Agenda.

REPORTS

Secretary: Minutes of the February meeting were reviewed. No changes were requested.

Treasurer: Information for the 990 went to the accountant yesterday. Bullet Aid from Assemblyman Chris Friend was received and we paid our Polaris license fee. Online book sales are still being received. Carol will mail Graeme our decision to cease online book sales ABE services.

Director: Fran reviewed the numbers from last month, holding steady.

Old Business: The Comic Festival/Graphic Novel workshop this past weekend was attended by 10 Ithaca College student leaders and 20 kids. Everyone had a great time.

Grants: Fran submitted the Community Fdtn of Tompkins County grant for summer reading and books. She is working on the FL Mini Grant for summer reading, Friends of the Ithaca Library, Love your Library, and Dollar General grants. She will write one for salaries from Triton and others.

New Business: March 13 financial workshop with Matt Kisner, Tioga County Seed Swap March 21.

Berkshire Reading Club will meet at the Library for a Zoom meeting with members outside the area. Fran will attend the FLLS meeting March 27 in Apalachin's library. The Annual Report may require an emergency meeting of the Board to approve it, since it is due this month but is not accessible at this time. Fran will check the NVCS web site for how to advertise community programs we offer. Fran said the Creamery Apartments in Harford still has readers – one in her 90s who reads 6-7 books every two weeks but who has now read all our large print books. Fran will order from other libraries and arrange to get them to her. We appreciated not only her willingness to serve, but also for the reader!

There being no further questions, Nancy moved the above reports be approved as presented. Barbara seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Grants: Covered under Director's report.

Copier/Printer: Carol said the printer suddenly started working well again so she does not want to purchase new at this time.

School Budget Status Talking Points: After discussion of the document distributed earlier, Barbara suggested reordering the points, and Lisa suggested we print a layout of two to a page for distribution. Janice will make the changes and distribute via email.

NEW BUSINESS

Programs: Fran said we cannot consider any new programs at this point.

ROUNDTABLE

Denny noted we need a yard cleanup day now that the snow is mostly gone, and Fran will check if a half day is possible with the County jail workers, maybe later in the season. He also asked about having the Binghamton Press & Sun Bulletin available for access, and Fran said they were available years ago but discontinued due to lack of use and expense. She will investigate if cost of access is feasible.

Nancy noted that in the 2022 school budget vote for a tax levy for the Newark Valley library, 310 voters decided the outcome, a small number. We need to spread the word before the May 19th vote, and will personally contact those who are supportive of the Berkshire Free Library.

Janice said an Easter Sunrise Service will be held about 6:15 on Parsons Rd., to be followed by breakfast at the Richford Congregational Church. It is a wonderful event!

There being no further business to conduct, Sue moved for adjournment, seconded by Denny. Unanimously approved.

Respectfully,

Janice Merrill, Secretary