

**Berkshire Free Library
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
at the Berkshire Free Library
July 14, 2026**

Present: Nancy Lohmann, Carol Leigh, Janice Merrill, Sue Ford, Lisa Michaud, Denny Dyer and Fran Miller, and Donald Lyke.

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM by President John Stoughton. Fran requested the Agenda add Cameras/Security under New Business and Janice asked to add changes to the Children in the Library Policy. No other changes requested.

REPORTS

Secretary: Minutes of the June meetings were reviewed. No changes were requested.

Treasurer: Worked on budget for County, and Grants are almost up to that budgeted, Fuel was over. Gifts in memory of Carol "Gus" Cox have been coming in.

Director: We have had a good turnout. She hired 3 people to help with Summer Program and during the week. She's been working on grant end of year reports. She has several people interested in helping with the Board but meetings would need to be moved to evenings.

OLD BUSINESS

Grants – see Director's report.

Books & Blueberry Festival – Need 20 pounds of blueberries picked and Lisa said she would take care of that. Sue reported the back storage room is almost empty except for the festival sale books, and any left over will be taken to the Friends of the Library. She has tarps in case of rain. We should have a list of places that do take books until the back room is insulated and proper shelving in place, ready to be used for donated books with donations to take them away. Help setting up the sale at 11 on Friday will be good. Bill Stell and Kathy Hartman will mark vendor spaces on Friday at 4 PM.

Bike Repair Station – Boxes are here but no directions. It's going to the basement until after the festival.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Member – Janice reported Vicki Davis is not available right now. Donna Davis who did the festival banners is interested but is not available during the days since she works. She would like to come to a festival wrap up meeting. Sierra Schiess and Tara McKenzie are possibilities.

Picnic Table – in place.

Kids Farmers Market – Veggies show up around 10 AM on Wednesdays. Help appreciated.

Cameras/Security – Don said we need to answer questions on the scope of the camera security desired. The goal is to provide a safe environment for Fran, keeping the back door locked. Preventing childish pranks in the rest of the rooms is the purpose of the cameras. Janice said the goal is not to find a perpetrator and call the police but to be able to call their mother and father. Arlo is a good system that _____ used and described to the Board. We will need a policy in place before a system is installed. We will find out what other libraries do. A Policy Making workshop will be held August 12 at FLLS from 10 to noon.

Children in the Library Policy – Since the policy was considered in the closed Executive Session last month, the revised policy with age changes was read. Denny moved and Don seconded the motion to increase the age of supervised children to 12-14 years, with those 15-17 treated as adult users, still legally the responsibility of their parents. Upon question, the motion passed unanimously.

ROUNDTABLE

Dennny said he fixed a broken lock and trimmed low branches under the tree.

Nancy asked if the Trustees would like to do something in memory of Carol Cox. A book on Christianity would be nice and asked if there is a memory bookshelf we could place it in. Maybe a concrete bench under the tree? The town has the mold for the concrete sides so would just need to get the composite boards and sign. Nancy will investigate and Don said he would help.

There being no further business to conduct, Sue moved for adjournment, seconded by Lisa and unanimously approved.

Respectfully,

Janice Merrill, Secretary