



Library Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – March 17, 2026

*Library Mission: To advance Derry Township through innovative programming, collections, and services that support the diversity of our community.*

*Present: Sandy Ballard, John DeFrank (Virtual), Cheryl Dellasega, Karen Golin, Alison Jacobine, Jordan Yeagley*

*Absent: Bruno Bellucci, Beth Shaw, Darby Valego (Endowment representative)*

1. *Call to Order:* Karen Golin called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.
2. *Public Comment:* No members of the public were present
3. *Approval of Minutes:* Sandy Ballard made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 20, 2026 meeting. Jordan Yeagley seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.
4. *Reports of Representatives:*
  - a. *Friends of the Library:* Caroline Schwalm submitted a report to Alison. On April 11, author Kate Quinn will visit for a luncheon and book reading and signing. The 2027 distinguished author will be Lisa Scottalini.
  - b. *Endowment Trust:* None
5. *Old Business:* No report
6. *New Business:*
  - a. *Agenda Items*

Some changes are proposed to the existing Gifts and Donations Policy which relates to acceptance of gifts and naming opportunities. There was discussion about consistency of language in the policy.
  - b. *A Local Authors Shelf Policy* was reviewed to address Generative AI. Language was added to prohibit books written or illustrated by Generative AI. Possible ways to screen for Generative AI was questioned and will be explored further.
  - c. *A new Policy on Public Use of Age Specific Areas* of the Hershey Public Library was proposed to permit children and teens to have separate designated spaces within the library. Posting of the policy was encouraged, especially during times of school breaks when young people may use the library more. Once finalized,



information on this policy will be posted in the children's and teen areas of the library.

- d. A new Solicitation Policy was discussed next. The space capacity for collection bins and donations will be limited to prevent overflow.
- e. Alison will take these policies to the library legal counsel for their review and feedback.
- f. Karen Golin has been our representative on the District Advisory Council for the Capital Area Library District. She is willing to continue.

7. *Financial Report:*

- a. Alison presented a very thorough explanation of the line items as part of the HPL report through February 2026.

8. *Communications:*

- a. Communications for January and February 2026: The HPL was mentioned in a recent book and a teen library user published a children's book of poetry on Amazon. There were several kind comments and the Fear of Commitment Short Story Group was featured as a Best Practice.

9. *Report of the Library Director and/or Staff Reports:*

- a. Board Reports for January and February 2026: a new Directors Report was shared outlining the many activities of the Library Director. Alison has been busy seeking window replacement quotes and refining the policy work described above. A new website is being developed to be more concise and weeding of materials that aren't circulated because they have outdated content or unappealing titles is ongoing. There is also work underway on new hot spots and a soft launch of games.
- b. We continue to see significant increases in use of Programs and Services. A question was asked about patronage numbers which the marketing campaign will address.
- c. Employee Mark Totten is now full-time and will help with marketing and other activities.
- d. Repair of the AV system is being carried out and a Strategic Marketing Campaign message has been sent. There will be new chair coverings, and a Book Lockerr wrap created by Stoner Graphix.

10. *Adjournment:* Sandy Ballard made a motion to adjourn seconded by Cheryl Dellasega. The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:55 P.M..



*The next meeting of the Hershey Public Library Board of Directors is 7 PM on May 19, 2026*