

Minutes
Library Company of Burlington
23 West Union Street Burlington, NJ 08016

May 14, 2025:
Board of Trustees Regular Quarterly Meeting

The Quarterly Meeting of the Library Company of Burlington Board of Trustees was called to order on Wednesday, May 14 at 7:00pm.

Attendance:

- Those board members attending in person were Barbara Fisher, Thomas Scattergood, Steve Simon, Ed Canivan, Alex Buzick, Pete Green, Michael Barriero, TJ Swan, Eli Eytan and Pat Taylor. Director Kim Gibson and Treasurer Rick Mauro were also present.
- No trustees were absent.

Reorganization:

All trustees were reelected. Nominations for officers were as follows:

President: Ed Canivan

Vice-President: TJ Swan

Secretary: Pat Taylor

Treasurer: Rick Mauro

The offices of President, Vice-President and Secretary were unanimously approved. The office of Treasurer's appointment was unanimously approved.

Secretary's Report:

Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from the February 2025 meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Highlight of the report was that the LCOB has received the quarterly Hall Estate contribution. Motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report. Report was unanimously approved.

Director's Report:

1. Friendly group donated \$1,000 to the Friends that they would like to go toward the purchase of large print books.

2. Summer reading begins next month.
3. The lift has been inspected by the state. Cost was \$182 to the state and \$750 for a technician.
4. The Friends have paid in full for the roof replacement.
5. BCLS has launched the new website.
6. New computers will be installed in the fall.
7. Request made to release the County funding in a timely manner.
8. BCLS will be rolling out a new website in April.
9. Hoping for more funds from County to compensate for the loss of overdue fines.
10. Psychic Fair was held and \$773 was donated to the library.

Motion made and seconded to accept Director's Report. Motion was unanimously approved.

Friend's Report:

The CD held has matured and 15K was rolled in to a new CD. Summer reading will begin On June 19 with an Ice Cream Social Kick-Off. Books & Beer will be held on July 12 and will be capped at 100 people. Tickets will be \$40 per person. Hoping to get the beer and food donated. Back to School nights will begin in the fall.

Old Business:

1. Maintenance Update: Windows and storms will be painted and repaired where necessary. Estimates are roughly in the 18K range. Motion to approve up to 19K for the project was made and seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.
2. Discussion of what our path forward should be to become a non-profit corporation. Would need a certificate of good standing and apply for 501(c)3 status. Tom and TJ will contact some attorneys to see how this can be accomplished. Motion made to share information from the attorney we had hired with other attorneys. Motion also made to form a committee of Tom Scattergood, TJ Swan and Eli Eytan to reach out to law firms for advice. Both motions were unanimously approved.
3. CAPES application was submitted by Alex Buzich. They will send an expert to see what we have in our collections and make recommendations but do not do appraisals. Motion made and seconded to engage CAPES to look at our collection. Motion was unanimously approved.

New Business:

1. Federal Library cuts are very real as a result of DOGE gutting. NJ libraries will have a 50% cut and 2.25 million dollars has been cut in the state library budget.

2. Downsize computers by cutting to 8 public computers as more people are coming in with laptops. Get rid of 2 children's computers. Motion was made to accept these cuts. Motion was unanimously approved.
3. County Committee meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of the month via Zoom on the County website. If any trustees are able to attend, please let Kim know.
4. The Costello collection was discussed. Many of the items have no value and there is lots of duplication between the County Library and our library. Perhaps some of the items can be digitized and moved to the reference section and have a link on our website. Motion was made for Kim to sort, offer items back to the family and dispose of the rest at the Wood Street Fair and Book Smiles. Motion was unanimously approved.
5. Amanda Mackie would like to have police officers interact with children at the Library as a community service. Thought was to have them come as special guest readers during story times.

Correspondence:

The Library was having a problem with some teenage boys. The police had to be called. Letters were sent banning the boys from the library for 6 months.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.

The next regular board meeting will be on Wednesday, August 13, 2025 at 7pm in the library.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patricia Lessig Taylor

Secretary