

Marple Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes April 27, 2026

Attendees: LaTanya Burno, Mike Ballinger, Jane Staud, Stephanie Latchford, Cynthia Wilson, Richard Rohr, Tamara Kelly, Judy Bagdon

Absent: Mike May

Logo Presentation- Vela Burke – Logos presented to the board and the board decided on the middle logo.



Disposition of Minutes: The board accepted and approved the minutes for March.

Treasurer's Report:

Cash Flow Analysis – Richard

- March was down on investments
- We should have spent $\frac{1}{4}$ of the state aid by now, but we are keeping it tight and not pulling from reserves yet.
- County aid is still to come in. In part it depends on how many transactions there were between libraries.

- Will our decrease in budget impact county aid? – Yes, it is .5 mil of market value. In 2025 we got \$10,597 – highest of all the libraries. The Finance committee will check on expectations for this year.

The board accepted and approved the treasurer's report for March.

Director's Report

- We are holding steady with staffing – cut back on some reference and it is not working to have on call reference. Staff are spending more time upstairs – All professional librarians are on desk, except Vela. The demands on reference are great.
- Excited to see that the first program fundraiser was a success.
- Children's desk/ Reference/ Circ all hands-on deck for the summer
- 2 part time people may have additional hours which could increase staffing costs. Steady Saturday person for circ.
- Attended Republican's Women and they are very supportive of the library.
- Building update – brand new door and other two doors were fixed.
- The Adult browsing bin with the dedication for Marcy is in the process of being made.
- We received a donation of an industrial carpet cleaner via Tamara.
- The district negotiated agreement has been completed.
- The annual report is now with the state. Federal reviewers had asked for minor clarifications and they were provided.

Questions:

- There was a question about the responsibilities for the Reference staff. They pull holds, handle reference questions, interlibrary loan, they are the librarian in charge. They help patrons find materials, jobs, unemployment compensation, state forms, and aid the visually impaired.
- A follow-up question was asked about why reference librarians pull holds. Pulling holds has a direct collection analysis benefit for the reference librarians who are purchasing materials. This is how they get to see what the patrons are requesting.

Personnel – No update.

Governance – Policies to review

New Business

Fundraising Committee – Met with staff and have a centralized approach based on what is happening at the library. We have competition with others like fire, churches, police association, etc.

- Business owners too busy for a breakfast
- Annual campaign – generates @ \$50,000 annually and the average contribution is \$50 from @900 donors.
- Summer reading – rewards from businesses
- Holiday giving tree.
- Payroll deductions – united way
- Growing the fundraising
- Strong teen volunteers
- Received requests – senior – qualified charitable donations can avoid taxes

Joel Perlish donation - \$25,000 donation with caveat that a plaque is displayed in the library with a specific design/verbiage. He worked with library staff on what he would like to include. There was a review of the Gift Policy and discussion – Board Vote 6 Approved 1 Board Member Rejected.

Questions:

Do we have a designated area for plaques? If not, should we have a designated area? The fundraising committee will decide. Some libraries have a Donor Wall – Ex: Denver Public Library

Keystone Grant for Public Library Facilities Grant Award

Keystone Library Grant – 750,000 was awarded it and it is a matching grant. The grant award was made public. There were only 3 in Delaware County. Karen and Christina spoke with Larry about going forward. The township's plan may be to keep the funding at this level for 5 years.

Jane to try to set up a meeting with Joe and Mike May to clarify thoughts on funding.

We need to decide whether or not to accept keystone grant – signatures need to be in place by May 1.

If we choose to decline could hurt us in the future. We need signatures from all parties. We can accept and it will allow us to adjust. Our focus is on safety – doors and flooring – holds lockers. We have some flexibility to take it as far as we want to go. We have a recommendation to start slowly and strategically. As we work with JR Keller, we will need current pricing and to see what we can we scale back on. We are working through the operating budget and starting to work on 2027 budget.

Question: If we do not spend money in reserves, can we put it into next year's budget? Should be able to, but we may need to consider staffing.

The board agreed to go ahead with the grant and get the signatures. We will continue to report on current deficit and acknowledge the impacts on the grant and adjust as needed.

There was a question if IMLS funding could impact the grant. LaTanya confirmed the funding source was not IMLS.

Records Retention Policy – the committee submitted questions and got detailed answers over to attorney for the draft policy.

Old Business

- **Collection Development Policy and Reconsideration Form** revisions were up for a vote and were accepted by the board.
- **Physical and Sexual Abuse Policy** - Comments and edits will be sent to the board and will be on the agenda for May.
- **Whistleblower and Conflict of Interest Policy**- Comments and edits will be sent to the board and will be on the agenda for May.

DCL Meeting – Mike - APRIL 16, 2026

Communications and Announcements:

- Keystone Grants- Marple \$750,000, Ridley Park \$30,000, Sharon Hill \$750,000
- National Library Week, April 19-25, 2026- Theme “Find Your Joy”
- Summer at the Library, 6/19 thru 8/15 – Theme “Unearth Reading” Dinosaurs
- Milestone - Items checked out numbered over 3 million (1st time) from Delco Libraries
- Legislative Breakfast- Great Success, Mentioned Marcy’s Award and regrets of her passing. Thank you to all involved.

Administrator’s Report:

- Waiver of District State Aid Standards- Starting next year, the DCLS will be applying to the state for waivers (From State Requirements, such as hours open, collection size, etc.) instead of individual libraries. This is transitioning in years 2026 and 2027.
- District Negotiated Agreement 2026-2027- working toward Access and Development services for member libraries.
- Strategic Plan – Implementation of new system (Discovery Layer) for card catalog searching, in process.
- System Evaluation – Recommends checking out the “Impact Report” on the DCLS website.

Public Comment: Media Library - Music Ensemble – open to residents 12 and up who enjoy playing music together. Book Sales Media this Sat 4/18 and Radnor 5/16.

Next Meeting Thursday June 18, 2026 at 6:30PM

Next DCL Meeting

June 18 - Tamara

August 20 - Stephanie

Oct 15 - Judy

Dec 17 - Jane

Next Board Meeting—May 18 (In-person)