

Minutes for DFPL Board of Trustees Meeting 12.17.2025

Call to order:

A regular monthly meeting of the Dobbs Ferry Library Board of Trustees was held on December 17, 2025 at the Dobbs Ferry Public Library. The meeting began at 7:00pm and was presided over by Linda Stutz as President, David Tabacoff as Vice President, and Inna Livitz as Secretary.

Attendees:

- Voting members in attendance: Linda Stutz, *President*, David Tabacoff, *Vice President*, Inna Livitz, *Secretary*, Erika Abelon, David Agosto, Jennifer Andrews, Sam Gruen, Alex Peck, David Tabacoff
- Library Staff in attendance: Erik Carlson, Director, Donna Garofalo, clerk, taking minutes
- Guests: Jessica Galen, Donna Assumma, Frank Vizard, David Weber
- Members not in attendance: None

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from the November meeting were reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees.

Review:

1. President's Report

- **Trustee and Village Liaison Introductions:** The Director welcomed the two incoming Trustees for 2026, Frank Vizard and David Webber, as well as the new Village Liaison, Donna Assumma. Director will set up emails for incoming Trustees. Director and Trustees will discuss best practices for transferring email and google drive accounts to new Trustees to balance privacy with retention requirements.
- **February meeting date:** The Board meeting date for February was moved to February 11th because of conflicts with winter break and Trustee travel.

2. Director's Report

- **Miniature Golf Fundraiser Update:** Library still seeking a major sponsor for the fundraiser. Original sponsorship fee was \$2,600, Director has reduced the fee to \$1000. Trustee Tabacoff raised the possibility that the Library Board may serve as a sponsor.
- **New Handyman:** Director has hired a new handyman who will start in 2026.

3. Secretary's Report

- **Terms for incoming Trustees:** Based on order of recommendation by the Village Nominating Committee, it was determined that Frank Vizard would take over Alysa Kociuruba's unexpired term, which will expire in December 2026; and David Webber would take over Jennifer Andrews's unexpired term, which will expire in December 2027.
- **Renewal of Trustee Gruen's term:** Current Trustee Sam Gruen had taken over Alison Hendele's unexpired term, which expires in December 2025. Trustee Gruen confirmed his interest in continuing to serve on the Board for another term. Motion to renew Trustee Gruen's board membership for another term was made, seconded, and approved by the Board.
- **Term for Trustee Peck:** Current Trustee Alex Peck had taken over an unexpired Trustee term, and will need to renew his board membership in December 2026.

4. Committee Reports

Finance Committee:

- Committee reviewed the library's monthly finance reports and found all to be in order.
- The Village board passed the union contract on December 16, 2025, which includes a 3% percent annual compensation increase, effective immediately and retroactively to 2023 (fiscal year 2024) for white collar workers. The contract applies to union employees, but Library personnel support for full-time employees is in lockstep with union increases. Library Director had budgeted a 2.5% increase for the current fiscal year, so the budget shortfall for personnel will be only 0.5% this fiscal year.

Announcements and Upcoming Meetings:

- Next meetings scheduled: January 21, 2026, and February 11, 2026

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting ended at 7:30pm.

Secretary signature: Inna Livitz, Jan 12, 2026

Date of approval by the Board: 1/21/2026