

Minutes for DFPL Board of Trustees Meeting April 15, 2026

Call to order:

A regular monthly meeting of the Dobbs Ferry Library Board of Trustees was held on April 15, 2026 at the Dobbs Ferry Public Library. The meeting began at 7:30pm and was presided over by Linda Stutz as President, David Tabacoff as Vice President and Inna Livitz as Secretary.

Attendees:

- Voting members in attendance: Erika Abelon, David Agosto, Inna Livitz, Alex Peck, Linda Stutz, David Tabacoff, Frank Vizard
- Library Staff in attendance: Erik Carlson, Donna Garofolo
- Guests: Meghan Wells; Village Liaison, Donna Assumma
- Members not in attendance: David Webber

Approval of Minutes:

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

Review:

1. President's Report

- President Stutz complimented the updates to the Library entryway.
- A patron has made a formal reconsideration request to the Library Director for several series of children's books. In consultation with the Children's Librarian, and following the guidelines outlined in Library's material selection policy, the Director has informed the patron that the continued inclusion of these materials is in alignment with the Library policy and mission. The patron has the right to appeal the decision to the Library Board.

2. Director's Report

- Hoopla charges were higher than expected for the two monthly checkouts added to address issues resulting from a reduced monthly checkout limit.
- The search for Assistant Director is progressing to second-round interviews.
- The Director shared additional responses to the Library of Things survey received since the last Board meeting. The Library will analyze the responses in more detail over the summer. A cursory review suggests that the most popular items, including carpet cleaners and power washers, do not present serious liability concerns.
- Former Trustee Sam Gruen has donated AV equipment and updated the setup of the AV closet. The Director will acknowledge the donation by letter to the donor.
- The broken HVAC blower in the basement will be fixed this fiscal year.

3. Secretary's Report

- The Board will switch from using the trustee# email addresses to trusteeLastname email addresses. WLS will transfer each trustee's old Google workspace account to their new account.

4. Librarians' Report

- In an effort to expand the outreach of the Teen Librarian, it has been suggested to include tween programming in her responsibilities

5. Friends of the Library Report

- The Director has submitted a budget to the Friends for the next fiscal year. The Friends have launched their annual appeal and are holding a book sale on April 19, 2026.

6. Village Liaison Report

- The Village is currently interviewing candidates for Village Administrator and working on next year's budget.

7. Committee Reports

Policy Committee:

- The Committee has done a first draft of the disaster preparedness policy. Once the Assistant Director has been onboarded, the Director and Assistant Director will review the policy and align it with existing Library emergency response procedures, with the goal of having the policy in place by January 2027 as required by NY State.
- The Committee is starting work on the volunteer policy.
- The Director will contact the Village Police Chief to set up a meeting for the Board to review protocols for interaction with ICE agents.

Finance Committee:

- The Committee reviewed the monthly finances and found them to be in order. The Village has approved the Library budget for the next fiscal year. The Library is on track to fully spend the current fiscal year budget.

Personnel Committee:

- The Committee has focused on the search for a new Assistant Director, who will hopefully start in May.

Items for Vote

- The Board passed a resolution to decommission a slate of outdated, unused, or non-functioning equipment.

- The Board voted to accept the donation of an audio receiver from Sam Gruen valued at \$600.

Announcements and Upcoming

- Next meetings scheduled: May 20, 2026, and June 17, 2026

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting ended at 8:20pm

Secretary signature: Inna Livitz, May 3, 2026

Date of approval by the Board: 05/20/2026