

Barrett Paradise Friendly Library
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2025

Meeting held in the Weiler Family Community Room with a virtual option

In Attendance: Mike Stein, President; Julie Wynne, Vice President; Richard Leist, Treasurer; Cindy Cook, Secretary. Trustees: Brette Fulton, Judi Jabara, Nancy Lewis, Maureen Siglin. Mary Ann Lewis, Library Director. Julie Niering and Darryl Speicher were not in attendance.

Mike Stein, President, called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

The minutes of the July 28, 2025 meeting were reviewed, Nancy Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Julie Wynne seconded and all were in favor. Richard Leist abstained due to being absent from the meeting.

Treasurer's Report –Richard Leist reported the balance sheet is strong. Maureen Siglin made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Brette Fulton second and all were in favor. Richard Leist abstained.

Library Director's Report – Mary Ann reported the newsletter distribution dropped significantly due to an address cleanup which may also drop the cost for distributing the newsletter. Library visitors were up in July with a large attendance for children's programs as well as library use.

Trish Lowery Lippert will be the artist displaying her art work in September & October.

The adult summer reading program had small participation, which is not unusual. The winner of the adult summer reading prize, which included a library tote bag, drink tumbler, and a \$35.00 Amazon gift card, donated the gift card back to the library.

The circulation stats were very good and were just over last July's numbers.

The programs went very well and the transition has begun into fall and regular programs. Mary Ann reported the make you own garden gnome was a fun program and the fraud prevention program also went very well. The instructor was excellent and will be offering another program soon. A forest bathing program is scheduled for September 13 and Treats on the Trail is scheduled for October 18 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Building Report – Super Heat was here for a service call on August 12. Grover Cleveland replaced the AED battery. The annual carpet cleaning is scheduled for Labor Day weekend. Mountain Landscaping did the weeding and cleanup needed around the property. The digital sign is still not working properly.

Fundraising – The Friends Letter has brought in \$11,716.27 to date with 136 donors. The figure is slightly below last year with 11 fewer donors. LOL Comedy Night was financially a huge success with a profit of just over \$20,000. The comments received were everyone attending were happy overall but the consensus was the third comic was a bit vulgar. It was suggested that the comedy performed should be something suitable for television.

Grants and Donations – The Hommer Foundation has acknowledged they received the library's request letter and more information should be available in September.

Nomination Committee- Mike Stein, Brette Fulton, and Maureen Siglin will be on the nominating committee and will have a slate of nominees for the October meeting to be voted on for the November meeting.

Library 2034-Richard Leist made a motion, Judi Jabara second, and all were in favor to have Mary Ann share the 2034 committee report with the library staff and request the staff to take ownership of the bullet points along with a time frame for completion.

Old Business – ESSA checking account balance discussion took place with Richard Leist noting that the money from all sources is placed in the operating account and segregated on the fiscal reports. The grant documents do not require a physical separation of the money although all grants require certain spending requirements. Richard suggested a savings account be opened at ESSA and all grant money be deposited in that savings account, which he noted would earn interest and provide additional income to the library. It was also noted that the operating account may be overdrawn in the beginning of the year but the library would use the Morgan Stanley account to cover that; when the tax revenue comes in the Morgan Stanley money would be paid back. Maureen Siglin made a motion to open a saving account for the grant money at ESSA, Nancy Lewis second and all were in favor.

America250PA discussion took place about holding an organizational meeting with Barrett Township, Paradise Township, The Barrett Historical Society, The Paradise Historical Society, PARC and the library on September 4, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. The goal is to have each organization share thoughts and plans as well as help with costs and volunteers. Discussion took place about any other ideas for the meeting. Richard Leist believes there is a void in the civics lessons of the history of our country. Julie Wynne is a member of the DAR and will check with the Stroudsburg chapter to see if they would like to be involved. Richard Leist will check with the Foxhowe group at Buck Hill to see if they would consider composing a program about the history of the formation of The United States.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 a.m. Brette Fulton made a motion and Julie Wynne second, all were in favor.

The next meeting will be held Monday September 22, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. in the Weiler Family Community Room with a virtual option.