

Barrett Paradise Friendly Library
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2025
Meeting held in the Weiler Family Community Room with a virtual option

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

Julie Wynne, Vice President, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The minutes of the February 24, 2025 meeting were reviewed. Maureen Siglin made a motion to approve the minutes, Nancy Lewis seconded, and all were in favor. Brette Fulton abstained due to not attending the January meeting.

Treasurer's Report –Richard Leist reviewed all the reports and stated the year is off to a good start and the balance sheet is fantastic. Darryl Speicher made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Brette Fulton seconded, and all were in favor. Richard Leist abstained.

Richard Leist stated that Jeff Weekes from Morgan Stanley will be at the next meeting to review the library's investment accounts.

Library Director's Report – Mary Ann reported library visitor numbers are holding steady. Safe Monroe has contacted the library to conduct a program for parents about teaching children safe boundaries with people. The 4-week program will be held on Saturdays beginning in May.

The annual report has been submitted to the state and is in the review stage. The library met the 12% rule for collection expenditures.

Barrett Township Historical Society held their first meeting at the library. Commissioner Parker arranged to use the community room for a public service video shoot for fentanyl awareness. 567 Workshop held tax information sessions for seniors; about twenty (20) people attended each session.

Mary Ann reported that IMLS has been affected by funding cuts which may affect the funds the state gets from the federal government. It is possible PowerLibrary may be affected as well as funding for staff development but at this time it is not known. Mary Ann will put together some information that explains the possible cuts and who to contact to voice concerns. Some things that may help reduce funding cuts are sharing library success stories such as how the library has helped people secure jobs by providing internet services and tech assistance. Also, by connecting parents with resources to assist their children with services such as vision screenings and workshops to address possible developmental issues. The library also provides social connections and is a social hub in the community and we follow our mission: "To strengthen our community, the library connects people with ideas, experiences, and each other and inspires them to dream and succeed as lifelong learners."

Circulation stats are holding steady considering February was a short month and there was quite a bit of bad weather.

Program stats are stable. Mary Ann announced the library's Family Place programs are resuming with parent child workshops. The intent is for parents to be active with their child and explore the various educational play stations in the room. Each week a resource professional from the community will be

available to chat with parents. For example, a dietitian may come in and talk about healthy eating. Adult programming is in place and going well.

Building Report – In regard to the geothermal system, Super Heat performed the annual maintenance on the system two (2) weeks ago. All filters were changed, a few issues have been identified as well as a leaky valve. Super Heat stated the two remaining original units are not ready to be replaced yet. At this time there is nothing urgent with the system but there is maintenance work that needs to be done. The location of the automatic opener button for the back door is an issue as visitors do not see it; discussion took place on some solutions to that issue.

Fundraising – The Friends Letter has generated \$20, 820.12 with 210 donors to date. The total has surpassed the 2024 grand total by \$815.00.

The Flower Show bus trip was held Tuesday March 4, 2025. It was a successful cultural event and fundraiser planned with The FCC. The amount of profit, which has not been determined yet, will be split between The FCC and the library.

Books and Bubbly will be held Friday, June 13, 2025, from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Nancy Lewis and Judi Jabara volunteered to help organize and Julie Niering volunteered to make the flower arrangements.

Grants and Donations – Hughes Grant information is being gathered, and applications are being completed. The library would like to update the public computers, purchase a new Microsoft license, and replace the Community Room large screen monitor.

New Business – National Library week is April 6-12 this year and the library has a family book bingo planned as well as some other fun activities.

The Local Author Meet and Greet is coming together with five (5) confirmed authors attending.

Brette Fulton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m., Darryl Speicher seconded, and all were in favor.

The next meeting will be held April 28, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in the Weiler Family Community Room with a virtual option.