

Barrett Paradise Friendly Library Trustee Meeting
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
September 22, 2025
Meeting held in the Weiler Family Community Room with a virtual option

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

Mike Stein, President, called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

The minutes of the August 25, 2025 meeting were reviewed. Julie Niering made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Brette Fulton seconded, and all were in favor.

Treasurer's Report –Richard Leist reported there is nothing to note, all is going well. Darryl Speicher made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Nancy Lewis second and all were in favor. Richard Leist abstained.

Library Director's Report – Mary Ann reported August visitors were a little less than July. The Barrett Township Historical Society program was well attended and the speaker at the program is considering holding genealogy research sessions at the library.

The library goodness for this month is how thankful some older patrons are to be able to receive technical assistance at the library.

Circulation stats overall were a bit down from July this year and July 2024. The decrease seems to be in the children's numbers but overall, the numbers are still good.

Program stats are strong with the highlights being summer reading and story times. The forest bathing program hosted by Joshua Heath from the DCNR was a hit and the library will invite him back to host a spring program. Treats on the Trail will be held at Ice Lake on October 18, 2025 from 1:00pm-3:00pm and the featured book is The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything.

Building Report – Altronics completed the annual fire extinguisher inspection; it was noted a few of them will need to be replaced next year. Discussion took place about an odor coming from the book drop area. It appears the jumping worms may be causing it. The digital sign is working. Mary Ann stated she received good technical support and the company has upgraded the software. Super Heat is still working on a proposal to replace the filters and valves on the geothermal system.

Fundraising – The Friend Letter has brought in \$15,801.27 to date with 174 donors. The figure is slightly ahead of last year with 2 fewer donors. The basket raffle will be held November 24 – December 13 and the drawing will be live streamed again this year.

Grants and Donations – Mary Ann is working with our IT person to get the computers ordered that will be paid for with The Hughes Grant.

The library has not received any updates from the Hommer Foundation.

Nomination Committee- Mike Stein stated the bylaws allow for minimum five members up to eleven members on the board. The board currently consists of ten members and the nominating committee would like to expand the board by one to make it an eleven-member board. The committee would like Lisa Flanagan to rotate back onto the board. The slate of officers will be presented at the October meeting.

Library 2034-Mary Ann reported they discussed the Library 2034 plan at the last staff meeting. Staff is reviewing the survey results and considering program ideas and ways to best promote library services. It is a work in progress. An update will be presented at the October meeting. Some items in the plan presently being addressed are basic computer literacy, youth social hours, and tech help. Outcomes can be tracked through program stats.

Old Business – The plan has been proposed for a grant income account with Morgan Stanley and will be reviewed with the bookkeeper.

America250PA update: An organizational meeting was held on September 3, 2025 with the next meeting scheduled for October 2, 2025. Two new organizations have joined the collaborative group-- The Friendly Community Center and the Rotary club. Barrett Township Historical Society has put together a calendar of events pertaining to the celebration.

Maureen Siglin reported two more files were found listing the history of the library directors. Once the resources in the library files have been exhausted, a message will be sent out in our newsletters to see if any more information can be gathered.

Darryl Speicher announced the Barrett Township Historical Society is hosting the train from Steamtown on October 12 and the fire company is having an open house that day as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 a.m. Darryl Speicher made a motion and Julie Niering second, all were in favor.

The next meeting will be held Monday October 27, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. in the Weiler Family Community Room with a virtual option.