

Barrett Paradise Friendly Library
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2026

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

In Attendance: Mike Stein, President; Julie Wynne, Vice President; Richard Leist, Treasurer; Lisa Flanagan, Secretary. Trustees: Cindy Cook, Brette Fulton, Judi Jabara, Maureen Siglin. Darryl Speicher attended on Zoom. Mary Ann Lewis, Library Director. Nancy Lewis and Julie Niering were not in attendance. One member of the community attended.

Mike Stein called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The minutes of the November 24, 2025 meeting were reviewed. Julie Wynne made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Judi Jabara seconded, and all were in favor. Lisa Flanagan and Maureen Siglin abstained due to not being present at the November meeting.

Treasurer's Report - Richard Leist reported all is good with the library's finances. 2025 was a solid year. Mary Ann stated that the State Aid arrived earlier than usual, in the beginning of January. The library received more money than projected by \$2,038. Mary Ann also updated the Board on her health insurance. The same plan that she was previously on was still available but at an increase of 25 percent. After exploring different options with the assistance of the broker and checking with Richard, we chose an option similar to the previous plan but with a higher deductible and without as steep an increase in cost. Lisa Flanagan made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Brette Fulton seconded. All were in favor. Richard Leist abstained.

Executive Session - Mike Stein made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 5:39 p.m. and Richard Leist seconded. All were in favor. Personnel issues were discussed and no decisions were made. Maureen Siglin made motion to exit Executive Session, and it was seconded by Judi Jabara. All were in favor and the General Session resumed at 5:47 p.m.

Library Director's Report - Due to snow storms recently, the library was closed 3 days and had 2 early closing days. In 2025 we had a total of 21,549 visitors, surpassing the previous year's total of just under 18,000. A Staff holiday party took place in early December with food from Capri and a recycled book/paper project led by a local crafter, Amy Kreckman. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. Mary Ann has been working on filling staff positions and training. The annual Frontline Online conference for staff is on February 4th. The sessions fulfill staff's requirements for continuing education. The Rotary is sponsoring a Red Cross blood drive in the Weiler Room on March 27, 2026. Mary Ann has begun to work on the State Report which is due in early March. John James' art continues to be displayed in the Weiler Room during January. Cook Family Photography's framed art work will be displayed during February and March. Mike Stein will display his photography work in April and May. The Library Goodness story for this month is related to the John James' Christmas Card Watercolor class that he presented in December. Mary Ann was approached by a woman who attended the class and was very

appreciative that the library would offer something so special. The project brought back wonderful memories of someone in her life and she was very touched. Mary Ann noted that we never know how what we offer here at the library or just do on a regular basis can affect people in unexpected ways.

Building Report - Super Heat cleared a clogged filter on the geothermal unit that had been shut down on their previous visit. They will return in the spring or the fall to replace valves when the weather is nicer in case the system needs to be shut off for a period of time. Dave Price checked a basement outlet that tripped. He'll return to change a few burned out light bulbs. Karl Weiler has arranged for someone else to shovel snow on the steps and sidewalks since Weiler Company maintenance crew isn't able to do it this year.

Fundraising - The current Friends Letter donations to date is \$23,442.27, which already exceeds total donations from last year plus 8 more donors. The Basket Raffle netted nearly \$5000, a little less than last year, possibly due to weather. Books and Bubbly will be held on Friday, June 19, 2026. The Philadelphia Flower Show bus trip will be held on Tuesday, March 3.

New Business - The Conflict of Interest forms were distributed to the Board members to complete and return to Mary Ann. Members who were not present can complete and return the form at their earliest convenience. The updated Trustee Contact List was reviewed by members for any needed corrections.

Mike Stein made a motion to approve the formation of a Personnel Committee and Richard Leist seconded. The Personnel Committee will begin with reviewing and revising the current Succession Plan. Mike Stein, Julie Wynne, Cindy Cook and Lisa Flanagan volunteered to assist Mary Ann on this committee. If any other Trustees would like to join, they may volunteer during the February Board meeting. The committee will begin meeting sometime after March of this year.

Old Business -

Donations - The Library received notification that the money bequeathed to us by a local family is not expected until May/June 2026 at the earliest.

Mike Stein reported on the Barrett Paradise America250 meeting held last week. Community groups are adding their events to a shared calendar to avoid scheduling conflicts. The calendar link was shared in our e-newsletter and will be posted on our website.

Library 2034 Update- A local realtor, Tina Tobin, has been creating short videos to promote area businesses and sites in Barrett and Paradise townships. She did a piece on the Library which highlights our many special offerings to the community. The video can be viewed on our Facebook page.

The next Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 23, 2026.