

Barrett Paradise Friendly Library
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2026

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

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

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

The minutes of the February 23, 2026 meeting were reviewed. Brette Fulton made a motion to approve the minutes. Julie Wynne seconded, and all were in favor.

Treasure's Report - Mike Stein presented the Treasurer's Report in the absence of Richard Leist. Financially, the Library has a good start to the year. The Balance Sheet is rock solid with virtually no liabilities. Investments gains are strong. Revenues are also strong driven by State Aid and public support. Expenses are lower due to payroll and grant expenditures. One CD recently was rolled over for 2 years at 3.8% interest. Another CD will be due soon as well. Lisa Flanagan made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Judi Jabara seconded. All were in favor.

Executive Session - Mike Stein made a motion to enter Executive Session at 5:38 p.m. and Lisa Flanagan seconded. Personnel issues were discussed, and no decisions were made. Maureen Siglin made a motion to exit Executive Session and Julie Wynne seconded. All were in favor and the General Session resumed at 5:45 p.m.

Library Director's Report - The total number of visitors in February was slightly lower but there was a slightly higher daily average. Mary Ann covered a Story Time on a day when both children's staff members called out. The Annual Report was submitted for review. Circulation numbers were slightly lower last month.

The Philadelphia Flower Show was a success even though the weather was not optimal. The art reception for Cook Family Photography was well attended. More than 50 people attended Barrett Township Historical Society's America250 program featuring music from the Revolutionary Era through the ages. A local Girl Scout Troop met at the Library and arranged vintage Girl Scout items for the Historical Society's Display case. Read Across America Day activities went well in early March highlighted by our first Book Bash.

The Red Cross Blood Drive sponsored by the Rotary will take place on Friday, March 27th. Upcoming Library programs include a beginner's watercolor class with John James, healthy eating program with a local nutritionist, forest bathing at Ice Lake, and a 3-session women's health book club focusing on menopause led by certified practitioners.

"Library goodness" this month centered around how grateful our patrons are for the help they receive from our staff. What seems routine for staff often has huge meaning for the individuals who seek assistance.

Building Report - Price Bros. Electric changed several lightbulbs inside the building. Super Heat performed the semiannual filter change. The sidewalks around the building need repairs after the rough winter. Mary Ann will contact Corey Seese to get an estimate.

Fundraising - The current Friends Letter donation to date is \$23,682.27 which is ahead of last year's total by \$2,102.50. The Philadelphia Flower Show Bus Trip raised a small amount of money for the Library. Books and Bubbly is scheduled for June 19. Mary Ann asked for volunteers to be on the committee to help plan and assist the night of the event. Julie Niering will provide the flowers. Maureen Siglin, Nancy Lewis, and Judi Jabara volunteered to be on the committee. LOL Comedy Night is scheduled for Saturday, August 1st at the Buck Hill Tennis Tea.

Grants - Mary Ann and Carol Hillestad are working on the two Hughes Grant proposals. One is due in early April and typically provides funds for children's services. The other is due at the end of April. We are hoping to update some staff computers and purchase a small sound system.

New Business - National Library Week (April 19-25) kicks off early with our annual Local Author Meet & Greet to be held on Saturday, April 18. Mary Ann sent out about 10 invitations to authors and is waiting for responses. During the week special activities will be offered for children and adults. Monroe County Commissioners will present proclamations to each of the libraries in the county at their April 15 meeting.

Old Business – Grants Account Update tabled until next month when Richard is present.

The Board discussed ways to celebrate America250. Mary Ann said the Library will show the movie 1776 for the monthly afternoon movie program as well another evening time. The Library is also planning an event for September with food and activities reflecting the Revolutionary era.

Related to the Library 2034 initiatives, an AARP program about AI and fraud will be presented in either late summer or early fall.

The Board discussed the status of the Library Directors' Plaque. Julie Niering and Maureen Siglin are looking for documentation with the dates that former Directors worked for the Library.

Any Other Business - Mike attended the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Stroudsburg last weekend and asked the Board if they would be interested in entering next year with a float promoting the Library. A discussion about entering a float in the Barrett Halloween Parade was discussed. Mike has a truck and flatbed that can be used.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 after Darryl Speicher made a motion and Brette Fulton seconded. All were in favor.

The next Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 27, 2026.