

**Maxwell Memorial Library  
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes  
April 21, 2025**

Meeting called to order by President Ann Henderson at 6:01pm.

Attendees: Ann Henderson, President  
Donna Breen, Vice President  
George Mango, Treasurer  
Nancy Davidson  
Philip Grome  
Allison Palermo-Record

Visitors: Jennifer Burke, Director  
Rena Brower, Library Assistant

The minutes from March 18, 2025 are accepted as published, with one grammatical edit.

**Treasurer's Report – George Mango**

Statement of Financial Position as of March 31, 2025:

Total Assets:	\$383,188.81
Retained Earnings:	\$126,547.29
Net Revenue:	\$256,641.52
Total Liabilities and Equity:	\$383,188.81

The report on the Financial Position was accepted as written, subject to audit.

**Director's Report – Jennifer Burke**

Jennifer hired two new library clerks, Lauren Pollock and Anna Dahlstein. Please say “hi” to them the next time you’re at the library. Amanda Schiavulli is returning to OCPL as Member Services Coordinator, effective April 21. The Geranium Sale began March 24. Orders must be placed by May 10. Please spread the word! Artists Elliott Mattice and Kathy Maio will begin the mural in the Children’s Area sometime after Easter. This was a grant from CNY Arts and The County of Onondaga, received by the Village of Camillus, for a community art project. Jennifer attended many meetings and webinars, including a very important one called “Patrolling the Stacks?: Responding to Activity by ICE & Other Law Enforcement Agencies at Your Library.” She highly recommends all trustees watch the recording, if you haven’t done so. National Grid installed a Smart Meter on April 1. Jennifer met with our landscaper to discuss leveling the areas where the trees used to be, as well as trimming the spruce tree in the front. She’s awaiting quotes for this work. She and Rena attended Makerspace Day at East Hill Elementary on March 22, where they interacted with 70 students and their families.

Melissa continues storytimes at local preschools, as well as “Stories and Sundaes” at Charlee’s Ice Cream. She also continues weekly programs for children and her monthly teen craft. She had a Shadow Puppet Show on March 8 that featured characters from Turkey that are 700 years old. This popular puppet show, traditionally shown during the month of Ramadan,

introduces children and families to Turkish culture and history. Melissa has also booked all the entertainment for the Summer Reading Program.

Adult programming continues with three book clubs, Maxwell Matinees, Cribbage and More, and Make It @ Maxwell. We continue our Spring gardening series: on May 13 at 6pm, a Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardener will present Climate Change Effects on Home Gardening; and on May 20 at 6pm, Lynne Logan will present Edible Flowers. We're having our Annual Spring Book Sale on Friday, May 16 and Saturday, May 17. The Villagewide Sale will also be on May 17, 8am-3pm. We're currently accepting donations.

The Director's Report is accepted as presented.

### **President's Report – Ann Henderson**

A reminder that Sally has asked to step back from her position as Secretary of the Board. Ann asks everyone who is not already an officer to consider stepping forward for that position. Let her know if you have any questions.

She thanked the Director and staff for all the programming that is being offered.

The federal funding cuts to IMLS won't have an immediate effect on our operations, however, the future is uncertain. Ann strongly encouraged all trustees to continue advocating for the importance of libraries, Maxwell in particular. Please continue to read the information Jenny forwards to us as it becomes available.

Ann recommends several books that she found helpful in learning how to combat misinformation in the media. They are all available through OCPL. The titles are:

*Lives That Kill: A Citizen's Guide to Misinformation* by Elaine C. Kamarck

*What the Fact?* by Seema Yasmin

*True or False* by Cindy Otis

George recommended *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt. This book deals with the rise in mental illness among youth related to dependency on smartphones, social media and helicopter parenting.

Ann reminded everyone that OCPL's Trustee Advisory Committee (TAC) is holding a networking opportunity on Tuesday April 29 from 5:30-7:00pm at Marcellus Free Library, 32 Maple St., Marcellus.

Our next meeting is Monday, May 19, 2025 at 6:00pm.

### **Fundraising Committee – Donna Breen**

Donna shared Red Robin Spirit Night has been confirmed for Thursday, July 10. The Geranium Sale is underway. Order deadline is May 10. Please share with friends and family! We have volunteers for setup, delivery and pickup days. If you're interested in helping, please let us know. The Bottle & Can Drive is scheduled for Saturday, July 19. We're planning to have two Book Lover's Baskets, one for adults, and one for kids, during the Summer Reading Program. Our next meeting is Wednesday, April 23 at 10:30am on Google Meet.

### **Finance Committee – George Mango**

We met on April 16 to do a six-month review of the library budget, as well as the investments. George is satisfied we are on track at the halfway point of the fiscal year. Fidelity Investment balance is \$51,955.32 as of March 31, 2025. Pershing Brokerage (through KeyBank) are the two low risk, short-term bonds. The balance of both accounts is \$274,501.02 as of March 31, 2025. We are solidly solvent. Our next meeting is Thursday, July 17 at 1pm at the library.

### **Building and Grounds Committee – Philip Grome**

No report.

### **Long-Range Planning Committee – Ann Henderson**

No report.

### **Nominating and Personnel Committee – Ann Henderson**

This will be discussed in the Executive Session.

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

None.

### **Executive Session**

Donna Breen made a motion to adjourn the open meeting and enter an executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person. Nancy Davidson seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

The Board moved into executive session at 6:47pm.

George Mango made a motion to close the executive session and reconvene into open meeting. Allison Palermo-Record seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

The Board reconvened into an open meeting at 7:08pm

### **Guest Comments**

None.

President Ann Henderson adjourned the meeting at 7:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rena Brower