

The regular monthly meeting of the Schenectady County Public Library Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, January 22, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Swanker Boardroom at the Karen B. Johnson Central Library.

PRESENT: Madelyn Thorne, President; Brenda Schworm, Vice-President; Steve McCutcheon, Treasurer; Tina Chericoni Versaci, Secretary; Timothy Burke; David Fronk; Julie McDonnell; Jude McQueen

ABSENT AND EXCUSED: Justin Chaires; Bernice Rivera

STAFF: Charity Thorne, Executive Director; Beth DeMidio, Director of Operations; Devon Hedges, Assistant Director; Janice Martin, Board Clerk

GUESTS: Michelle Ostrelch, Schenectady County Legislature, Vice-Chair Education & Libraries; Cathi Alloway, Library Strategies (via zoom)

Madelyn Thorne called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Nancy Gifford and Wade Abbott spoke during privilege of the floor.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Julie McDonnell, seconded by Tina Chericoni Versaci. Motion passed.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The nominating committee presented the slate of officers for 2026:

President: Brenda Schworm

Vice President: Timothy Burke

Treasurer: Steven McCutcheon

Secretary: Tina Chericoni Versaci

As there were no nominations from the floor, a motion to approve the slate of officers was made by Julie McDonnell, seconded by Jude McQueen. Motion passed.

President Brenda Schworm presided over the rest of the meeting.

#### STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE

Cathi Alloway from Library Strategies reported that they are writing up the data from the staff in-service day sessions, focus groups, interviews, and community survey. Over 3,000 community survey responses were received. Library Strategies will present a draft strategic plan for approval at the February board meeting.

#### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Trustees reviewed the written report by Executive Director Charity Thorne. Some highlights:

- Our libraries have been receiving new furniture as part of the plan for library upgrades. The board approved funds in 2025.
- New door counters for branches are being installed with the help of County IT and County Facilities.

- With our Polaris upgrade all locations can now print spine labels through Direct Print.
- Standardized signs for the Glenville, Woodlawn and Quaker Street branches are being installed.
- Thank you to Schenectady County Office of Facilities and IT Department for their support during all our recent projects.

#### FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

- Winter Book Sale will be held on Saturday, January 31 from 10 am-4 pm and Sunday, February 1 from 11 am-2 pm. A “Friends Members Only” preview will be held on Thursday, January 29 at 5:30 pm.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – No report.

PLANNING COMMITTEE – No report.

POLICY COMMITTEE – No report.

NEW BUSINESS – None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m. on a motion by Tina Chericoni Versaci, seconded by David Fronk.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Swanker Boardroom at the Karen B. Johnson Library.