

Malvern Public Library
Board of Trustees February Meeting Minutes
Date: 03-25-2026

-ATTENDANCE-

Bill Holmes, President- East Whiteland Township
Shannon Doran, Vice- President, East Goshen Township
Helise Bichefsky, DO, Secretary- Malvern Borough
Kent Kingan, Treasurer- East Whiteland Township
Ryan Downey- Willistown Township
Ann DiMedio- Willistown Township
Jaimie Edmunds- East Goshen Township
Justine Fafara- MPL Director
Emily Quillen- MPL Children's Librarian
Kaitlyn O'Donnell- At-Large Member
Friends- Kathy DeMarco (alternating Jen Langlois / Kathy Demarco)

-VIRTUAL-

Christine Hafer- Malvern Borough

-ABSENT-

none

-GUESTS-

none

-MEETING CALLED TO ORDER- 7:06PM

-MEETING MINUTES- Motion to accept the Feb 2026 meeting minutes

1st Kent, 2nd Ryan, Motion unanimously approved

-CONSENT AGENDA-

-DIRECTORS REPORT- Justine

Will be updating the staff bathroom (coat of paint, etc)

1st Shannon, 2nd Ryan, Motion unanimously approved

-TREASURERS REPORT- Kent

Investments dipped these past few weeks given the state of the economy- so that was somewhat expected- and seems to be rebounding slowly

1st Shannon, 2nd Jaimie, Motion unanimously approved

-FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT- Kathy

Focus on upcoming Book Sale: 04/10- 04/11. Will not be offering a Teacher Pre-Preview Sale or the “group- payment” from the school district – challenges did arise that need to be worked through prior to offering this sort of program.

Book Donation Day went very well with a full closet of donated books.

Volunteers will be creating Folded Book Art- in the shape of flowers and bouquets. For display/donation/sale.

-PUBLIC COMMENT-

None

-OLD BUSINESS-

1- Board Terms- Ryan

In reference to MPL Bylaws Article 4 concerning Membership, it is recommended that an update be made to give the sitting MPL Board the opportunity to recommend that the onboarding trustee start a new 3-year term rather than assume the remaining time from the outgoing board member’s term.

1st Helise, 2nd Shannon, Motion unanimously approved

2- Strategic Initiative Meeting- Bill

Date of meeting 04/19 at 1pm. Location to be determined Members are asked to bring forward ideas to be discussed.

-AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATES-

1- FUNDRAISING- Bill/Justine

Donor Calls/Letters-

Book Bingo- Justine- New date 05/20, Time TBD, Location- Malvern Retreat House

Currently working on getting sponsors for the event. Bingo committee has a plan of action for the details of the day of the event.

Chester County Community Foundation Grant Update- Bill/Justine Have been busy writing a library grant for funds to primarily focus on Children’s materials, Hot Spots, Launch pads, VOX and Wonder Books.

2- OUTREACH COMMITTEE- Ann/Christine

OIC- Adult Literacy Support Nonprofit organization. Discussions have been continuing as to the current need and commitment from the library. For example, do they need simply space at the library or do their needs extend to actual volunteers. There is a possibility of a hybrid Zoom/In-person program- which would open the program up to more people in need.

Master Gardener Program will be hosted in the library on 04/18 in time for Earth Day.

3- POLICY COMMITTEE- Ryan

Working on the Bequest Agreement and the Donor Agreement policy

4- STAFF MORALE- Shannon

Everyone is excited about the changes to the staff bathroom that will be forthcoming.

5- INVESTMENT COMMITTEE- Bill

Awaiting a possible bequeathment to the library. No further information to date.

-NEW BUSINESS-

1- Signage- Justine

The Malvern Borough Council has been in discussion about switching the current borough hall outdoor sign to an LED sign. The library is in support of this change and will submit a letter stating such as the time is appropriate.

2- Birthday Initiative- Justine

Library purchased 7,000 “Happy Birthday” post cards. Will be sent to all patrons on the month of their birthday. Folks will be given the opportunity to come into the library for a “gift”- kids can pick a free book; teens get choice of chocolate bar vs book; adults get chocolate bar. Library has volunteers doing the bulk of the work for the mailings.

3- Kimberton Whole Foods Round Up- The MPL is the recipient this month. Did get a nice shout out from an employee there.

-ACTION ITEMS-

- location for strategic meeting

-MEETING ADJOURNED- 7:44 Proposed Date of Next Meeting: 04/22/2026 at 7pm

1st Ryan, 2nd Ann, Motion unanimously approved.

LIBRARY CELL PHONE # 610 507 1815

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY EMAIL: MPLFriends19@gmail.com

CURRENT BOARD MEMBER TERMS: Initiation dates w/ 3-year T (term) & 1 re-election option

EAST WHITELAND

Bill Holmes 03/2024 T1

Kent Kingan 01/2025 T1

EAST GOSHEN

Shannon Doran 03/2024 T1

Jaimie Edmunds (02/2026) T1

MALVERN BOROUGH

Helise Bichefsky 06/2023 T1

Christine Hafer 01/2025 T1

WILLISTOWN

Ann DiMedio 10/2023 T1

Ryan Downey 02/2025 T1