

**MINUTES  
VOORHEESVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
22 SEPTEMBER 2025**

Attending: President Sarah Brunt, VP Marielle McKasty-Stagg, Linda Conway, Georgia Gray, Laura Lamberton, and Sarah Clark, clerk

Remote Access:

Excused:

Absent:

Others Attending: Tracey Pause, Lynn Kohler

Call to Order: 7:03 p.m.

Public Comments: None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- Minutes for the July 28 regular board meeting
- September 2025 Directors report
- September 2025 Personnel report
- September Equity Challenge report
- July 31, 2025 Treasurers report
- August 31, 2025 Treasurer's report
- July 25 – September 10, 2025 Warrants

**MOTION (MMS)SECOND (LC) PASSED UNANIMOUS: TO ACCEPT THE 22 SEPTEMBER 2025  
CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Federal Changes**

Sarah C. reported on the priorities for advocacy as shared by NYLA's legislative rep. The trustees discussed the possible ramifications for VPL. Sarah C. will keep the trustees updated as needed.

**Albany County Health Benefit Consortium**

Sarah C. reported that the consortium is waiting for approval from the Dept. Of Financial Services. This may impact when the library will be able to transition from our current health coverage. The trustees discussed this, but no decisions were reached. Sarah C. will keep the trustees updated as needed.

**Historic Map**

Sarah C. reported that she, trustee Linda Conway, and library archivist Lea Foster, met with village representatives to discuss the possibility of sharing the cost to restore/preserve an historic map of Albany County. The village is not currently interested in this project. Sarah C. reported to the trustees that she and Lea Foster had several other ideas to pursue before giving up on the restoration and preservation of this historical map. The trustees discussed many options, but no decisions were made. Sarah C. will keep the trustees updated as needed.

**Tutoring Plan**

Sarah C. reported that so far, the tutoring guidelines have been successful, and would recommend that the board adopt the guidelines as a policy. Sarah C. also spoke with local school officials, to emphasize with them the lack of tutoring space available at the library. The trustees discussed the submitted policy and agreed it was a needed update. The policy is attached to these minutes.

**MOTION (GG) SECOND (LC) PASSED UNANIMOUS: TO ACCEPT THE TUTORING POLICY AS PRESENTED.**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **Hoopla Management**

Sarah C. reported that she and Tracey are looking at Hoopla circulation numbers. Sarah C. shared that some other libraries have decided to stop using Hoopla, but she is not ready to do that. Instead, she will be changing the maximum check-outs on Hoopla from 5 to 4, which will lower the associated costs. Sarah C. also shared that UHLS is looking at the Comics Plus app. The trustees discussed this. Sarah C. will keep the trustees updated as needed.

##### **Outreach Services Policy**

Sarah C. submitted a draft VPL Outreach Services Policy to the trustees. The trustees discussed the policy, but no changes were made. The policy is attached to these minutes.

**MOTION (LL) SECOND (MMS) PASSED UNANIMOUS: TO ACCEPT THE VPL OUTREACH SERVICES POLICY AS PRESENTED.**

##### **Grant Assurances**

Sarah C. shared the grants assurance documents for the latest NYS Construction grant currently under assessment by NYS. Board President Sarah B. read the grant assurances and the board duly adopted them as presented.

##### **Mission Statement revision**

Sarah C. submitted an updated mission statement to the trustees. Sarah B. read aloud to the other trustees. There was some discussion, and it was decided that our mission is to be a welcoming and safe space where anyone can freely access materials, programs, and experiences intended to expand and enrich their lives. We will strive to promote literacy, community involvement, lifelong learning and intellectual freedom.

##### **Trustees Training**

Sarah C. and Tracey reminded the trustees that they are still one hour short on their required training. The trustees discussed this and decided that perhaps online training might be more in line with everyone's current schedules. Sarah C. will investigate this and send everyone information. There is also the possibility of having in-person training scheduled before the December board meeting, or during staff development day.

##### **Paintings by Ed Cowley**

Sarah C. reported that she and Dennis Sullivan were privileged to be invited by Ed Cowley Jr. to see two original paintings of the Voorheesville train station. The paintings were done by the late Ed Cowley Sr., who was the chair of the art department at UAlbany, as well as a notable abstract impressionist painter. Mr. Cowley Jr. Would like the library to purchase them, but a price has not been decided. Sarah C. feels they would be an important addition to the community room renovation. The trustees discussed this and would like to possibly have the paintings appraised, to see what a fair offer would be.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

The next regular meeting of the board will be Monday, October 27, at 7:00 p.m.

**MOTION (LC) SECOND (GG) PASSED UNANIMOUS: TO ADJOURN AT 7:55 P.M.**