

**DEER PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ANNUAL REORGANIZATION AND MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, July 23, 2025, 7:00pm**

MINUTES

Present: Justin Belkin, President
John Gagliano, Vice President
Mike Gonzalez, Secretary
Anne Cognato, Trustee
Susan Gaskin, Trustee

Michael Buono, Library Director
Susan Zapata, Business Manager
Joanne Krapf, Account Clerk

Madeline McCabe, Community Member
Kathy Tarzi, Community Member

CALL TO ORDER

Justin Belkin called the meeting to order at 7:05pm, and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC
EXPRESSION**

Community members discussed difficulties navigating the library's website to search for materials, and recent improvements to program registration. The Director proposed scheduling classes to help patrons with recent website changes. Bus trips and new programming, including concerts and virtual author visits were suggested. The Director advised the Library is working on restarting bus trips in the near future.

**NOMINATION
OF OFFICERS**

Upon a motion by Anne Cognato, seconded by John Gagliano, the Board affirmed Justin Belkin will serve as President for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Upon a motion by Justin Belkin, seconded by Anne Cognato, the Board affirmed John Gagliano will serve as Vice President for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Upon a motion by Justin Belkin, seconded by Mike Gonzalez, the Board affirmed Anne Cognato will serve as Secretary for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

The Business Manager noted the Oath of Office for Trustee Susan Gaskin was previously administered on April 23, 2025.

ANNUAL REORGANIZATION BUSINESS

Upon a motion by Anne Cognato, seconded by John Gagliano, the Board affirmed the following independent professionals for the Library for the 2025-2026 fiscal year:

1. EPIC Insurance Brokers & Consultants as insurance agents;
2. Custom Computer Specialists as information technology consultants;
3. Searles Graphics as printing firm for the Library newsletter and other publications;
4. The Law Offices of Volz & Vigliotta, PLLC as Library Counsel; and

ANNUAL REORGANIZATION AND MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

MINUTES – page 2 of 3

5. Connect One Bank, formerly First National Bank of Long Island as the Library's banking institution

Upon a motion by John Gagliano, seconded by Anne Cognato, the Board affirmed the following Library organizational matters for the 2025-2026 fiscal year:

1. Official newspapers designated to carry legal notices are *Babylon Beacon* and *Long Island Business News*;
2. Library official to certify the staff payroll to be the Library Director;
3. Designation of authority for investment of library funds to be the Library Director;
4. The designated Treasurer shall remain Maria Antonelli;
5. BOCES Employee Assistance Program to be renewed; and
6. Approval of 2025-2026 Holiday closings, Sunday hours and Board Meeting plan

The Board tabled:

1. Approval of budget allocations for 2025-2026; and
2. Approval of tax and borrowing letter to the Deer Park Union Free School

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Anne Cognato, seconded by Mike Gonzalez, the Board approved the minutes of the meeting of June 25, 2025.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Upon a motion by John Gagliano, seconded by Mike Gonzalez, the Board approved the current bills and Treasurer's Report.

Upon a motion by John Gagliano, seconded by Anne Cognato, the Board approved adding to the agenda the consideration of a motion to assign library funds.

Upon a motion by John Gagliano, seconded by Anne Cognato, the Board approved assigning \$200,000 from the library's general fund to a fund for future contractually-mandated salary increases.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Upon a motion by John Gagliano, seconded by Mike Gonzalez, the Board approved a Personnel Report.

BUILDING MATTERS

The Director discussed a recent meeting with Town Supervisor Rich Schaffer and the proposed inclusion of the Library on an upcoming sewer project.

The Director discussed a pending report from Library Counsel regarding the proposed purchase of a property adjacent to the library.

OTHER BUSINESS

Monthly statistics were presented to the Board. John Gagliano requested more ticket and venue information be presented on the Library's website.

An incident report was reviewed and discussed.

ANNUAL REORGANIZATION AND MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

MINUTES – page 3 of 3

The purchase of chairs for the Community Room was discussed.

A proposal regarding the upgrade of patron computers was discussed. The Board requested additional information regarding same.

An upcoming Board training retreat was discussed.

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

Upon a motion by John Gagliano, seconded by Mike Gonzalez, the Board entered Executive Session at 8:53pm to discuss collective bargaining agreements.

Upon a motion by John Gagliano, seconded by Anne Cognato, the Board exited Executive Session at 9:42pm.

**DATE OF NEXT
MEETING**

The Board agreed to Wednesday, August 27, 2025 at 7:00pm for the next monthly Board meeting.

**MEETING
ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by John Gagliano, seconded by Anne Cognato, the meeting was adjourned at 9:43pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Zapata
Business Manager