

**DEER PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING  
Wednesday, March 25, 2026, 7:00pm**

**MINUTES**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Justin Belkin, President  
Susan Gaskin, Trustee  
Mike Gonzalez, Trustee

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

**EXCUSED**

John Gagliano, Vice President  
Anne Cognato, Secretary

**CALL TO ORDER**

Justin Belkin called the meeting to order at 7:10pm, and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon a motion by Mike Gonzalez, seconded by Susan Gaskin, the Board approved the minutes of the meeting of January 28, 2026.

Upon a motion by Susan Gaskin, seconded by Mike Gonzalez, the Board approved the minutes of the meeting of February 18, 2026.

**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Upon a motion by Mike Gonzalez, seconded by Susan Gaskin, the Board approved the current bills and Treasurer's Reports.

The Board tabled the approval of bank signature cards.

Upon a motion by Mike Gonzalez, seconded by Susan Gaskin, the Board approved adding to the agenda consideration of a Certificate of Deposit.

Upon a motion by Susan Gaskin, seconded by Mike Gonzalez, the Board approved the rollover of a Certificate of Deposit for 7 months at 3.70% APY.

Upon a motion by Susan Gaskin, seconded by Mike Gonzalez, the Board approved annual billing for the library's website support provider Searles Graphics, effective July 1, 2026, contingent on a one-month savings for committing to same.

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The Library Director discussed a future Deer Park Sewer Project, outlining an estimated \$250,000 cost for the library to complete the private-side sewer connection.

Upon a motion by Mike Gonzalez, seconded by Susan Gaskin, the Board approved adding discussion of a partnership with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

Upon a motion by Susan Gaskin, seconded by Mike Gonzalez, the Board approved partnering with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library for two years at a cost of approximately \$15,000 per year.

### **PERSONNEL MATTERS**

Upon a motion by Susan Gaskin, seconded by Mike Gonzalez, the Board approved Personnel Reports.

### **BUILDING MATTERS**

The Library Director reviewed a main floor building renovation proposal by BBS and conducted a walkthrough with the Board regarding same. The Board agreed with the goal of applying for grants and focusing renovations around increased accessibility and ADA compliance. Topics of discussion included an elevator/lift to the stacks, accessibility pathways, weeding and shifting of collections, painting, tiling, furniture, and shelving and computer terminal reconfigurations.

### **OTHER MATTERS**

Statistics and recent programs were reviewed and discussed.

Positive feedback regarding a recent bus trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show was shared, and the Library Director discussed an upcoming Subway Series bus trip.

The creation of Patron Engagement and Emerging Technology committees was discussed.

Incident reports were reviewed and discussed.

Correspondence from New York State Senator Monica Martinez regarding the library's participation in a Valentine's Day card initiative for seniors, veterans and local law enforcement was discussed.

The Library Director discussed an upcoming public information session regarding a proposed 2026-2027 budget taking place on April 1, 2026 at 7pm.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Upon a motion by Susan Gaskin, seconded by Mike Gonzalez, the Board entered Executive Session at 8:35pm to discuss ongoing collective bargaining negotiations.

Upon a motion by Mike Gonzalez, seconded by Susan Gaskin, the Board exited Executive Session at 8:45pm.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Board agreed to Wednesday, April 22, 2026 at 7:00pm for the next monthly Board meeting.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Susan Gaskin, seconded by Mike Gonzalez, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Zapata  
Business Manager