

VALLEY COTTAGE LIBRARY

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Board of Trustees Meeting of the
Valley Cottage Library
Wednesday, July 16, 2025

MINUTES

Present: Frank Dwyer, President
Melissa L. Roy, Secretary
Michael Mark, Treasurer
Mary Fiore, Trustee
Arlette Mooney, Trustee
Jemar Ward, Trustee

Christy Blanchette, Director
Ashley Maraffino, Assistant Director

Excused: Marge McLoughlin, Vice President

Public present: Carida Ridoré

1. Call to order – Meeting called to order at 7:37pm by Frank Dwyer, President.

2. Public Comments – None

3. Approval of Minutes – June 18, 2025 Minutes –

Moved by Arlette Mooney and seconded by Jemar Ward the following resolution:

To accept the Minutes of the June 18, 2025 library Board Meeting.
Motion passes 6-0.

4. President's Report – None

5. Director's Report – On file for review.

Christy shared the following highlights:

- She acknowledged Carida Ridoré, who attended the meeting, for her poster presentation at the ALA conference.

- She acknowledged that the Nyack and Valley Cottage Community Spotlight: BIPOC Business Event had won the 2025 RCLS Adult Program of the Year award.
- She reported that, in preparation for the development of the next strategic plan, RCLS has scheduled a series of focus groups for library trustees starting in August 2025. She shared the dates by email.
- She reminded all trustees to complete their continuing education requirements, if they had not done so already.
- She spotlighted Diana Mendoza, a Technical Services clerk, who recently conducted a well-received bilingual Storytime in the Children's Room.

6. Treasurer's Report –

Moved by Arlette Mooney and seconded by Mary Fiore the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library accepts the Treasurer's Reports dated June 30, 2025 and approves the attached vouchers.
Motion passes 6-0.

7. Board Reports and New Business –

Personnel Report –

Moved by Mary Fiore and seconded by Michael Mark the following resolutions as a group:

RESOLVED, that on recommendation of the Library Director, the Board of Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library accepts the resignation of Regina Rinato, whose last day of work will be June 25, 2025.

RESOLVED, that on recommendation of the Library Director, the Board of Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library approves the appointment of Tara Iacobellis, part-time non-exempt, effective July 2, 2025.
Motion passes 6-0.

Youth Services Policy –

Moved by Arlette Mooney and seconded by Mary Fiore the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Library Director, the Board of Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library approves the Children and Teen Services Policy, as amended.
Motion passes 6-0

Electronic Resources Policy –

Moved by Michael Mark and seconded by Melissa Roy the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Library Director, the Board of Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library approves the Electronic Resources / Internet Policy, as amended.
Motion passes 6-0

Rules of Conduct –

Moved by Mary Fiore and seconded by Arlette Mooney the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Library Director, the Board of Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library approves the updates to the Rules of Conduct policy.

Motion passes 6-0

Parking Lot Policy –

Moved by Arlette Mooney and seconded by Michael Mark the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Library Director, the Board of Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library approves the updates to the Parking Lot Use Policy.

Motion passes 6-0

Gifts and Bequests Policy –

Moved by Michael Mark and seconded by Arlette Mooney the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Library Director, the Board of Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library approves the Gifts and Bequests Policy.

Motion passes 6-0

Building Committee –

Christy reported that the Study Rooms opened last week. Patrons can reserve the rooms online. The signage has to be finalized for the renovated space. Furniture delivery will begin soon. The staff have received positive feedback about the renovated space.

There was some flooding in front of the Library during a recent storm. Christy is working with the landscaper to address the issues.

Finance Committee –

Michael reported that the committee is reviewing whether to change the external auditor in order to ensure an objective review of the Library's finances.

8. Old Business –

Public Comments –

The Bylaws Committee will meet to review a draft Public Comments policy.

9. Statistics – Reviewed

10. Adjournment

Moved by Michael Mark and seconded by Jemar Ward.

To adjourn the meeting.

Motion passes: 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:49pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa L. Roy, Secretary