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Board of Trustees Meeting of the
Valley Cottage Library
Wednesday, October 21, 2026

MINUTES

Present:	Frank Dwyer, President Mary Fiore, Secretary Michael Mark, Trustee Marge McLoughlin, Vice President Arlette Mooney, Treasurer Melissa Roy, Trustee Jemar Ward, Trustee
Also Attending:	Christy Blanchette, Director Ashley Maraffino, Assistant Director
Members of the Public:	None

1. **Call to Order**- Frank Dwyer called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

2. **Public Comments** (limited to 3 minutes each) – No members of the public attended this meeting.

3. **Approval of the minutes of the September 9, 2026 Meeting**

   Moved by Arlette Mooney and seconded by Marge McLoughlin the following resolution:
   RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the August 19, 2026 Valley Cottage Library Trustees meeting.
   Motion passes 7-0.

4. **President's Report** - None

5. **Director's Report** - In addition to her written report, Christy Blanchette reminded Trustees to finish up annual training hours.

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6. **Treasurer's Report** - Arlette Mooney reports that projecting to end year under budget. Also reports that 51% of the tax revenues have been received. Approximately 90% of tax money is expected to be received by November.

   Moved by Mary Fiore and seconded by Michal Mark the following resolution:
   RESOLVED that the Valley Cottage Library Board of Trustees accepts the Treasurer's Report of period ending September 30, 2026.
   Motion passes 7-0.

7. **Board Reports and New Business** –

   a. **2026/27 to 2028/29 Landscaping Contract Renewal -**
   The Trustees reviewed the draft contract and the information presented by the Library Director.

   Moved by Michael Mark and seconded by Marge McLouglin the following resolution:
   RESOLVED that the Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library approve the renewal of the Landscaping Contract awarded to Luna Landscaping.
   Motion passes 7-0.

   b. **VCL 2028 Proposed Operating Budget-**

   Moved by Arlette Mooney and seconded by Jemar Ward the following resolution:
   RESOLVED that the Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library approve the proposed in the FY2028 Operating Budget as presented.
   Motion passes 7-0.

   c. **NYS Tax Cap Override Resolution –**
   The Director presented the Draft Tax Cap Override Resolution language –

   WHEREAS, the adoption of the 2028 budget for the Valley Cottage Library may require a tax levy increase the exceeds the tax cap imposed by state law as outlined in General Municipal Law Section 3-c adopted in 2011; and

   WHEREAS, General Municipal Law Section3-c expressly permits the library board to override the tax levy limit by a resolution approved by a vote os sixty percent of qualified board members; now there be it

   RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library voted and approved to exceed the tax levy limit for 2028 by at least sixty percent of the board of trustees as required by state law on October 21, 2026.

   Moved by Arlette Mooney and seconded by Jemar Ward the above resolution.

   Motion passes 7-0.

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d. **Executive Session – employment compensation of particular employees for FY2027**

At 7:50pm, Melissa Roy moved and Michael Mark seconded adjournment to Executive session to discuss the employment compensation of particular employees for 2027.
Motion passes 7-0

Reconvene to Public Session.
At 8:13pm Marge McLoughlin moved and Melissa Roy seconded to reconvene to Public Session.
Motion passes 7-0

Moved by Michael Mark and seconded by Jemar Ward the following resolution:
RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library accept the employee compensation package as recommended.
Motion passes 7-0.

8. **Board Business** –
Marge McLoughlin announces that she will be stepping down from her role as a Trustee of the Valley Cottage Library as of October 22, 2026. Ad hoc committee of Melissa Roy, Jemar Ward, Mary Fiore will help to review next steps on replacing a Trustee.

9. **Statistics** – Found on the website for review.

10. **Adjournment** -

Moved by Michael Mark and seconded by Melissa Roy the following resolution:
RESOLVED that the Valley Cottage Library Trustees meeting adjourned by Frank Dwyer at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Fiore
Secretary
Valley Cottage Library Trustees

The next Board meeting is Wednesday, November 18, at 7:30 p.m.

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