VALLEY COTTAGE LIBRARY
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Board of Trustees Meeting of the
Valley Cottage Library
Wednesday, September 9, 2026

MINUTES

Present:	Frank Dwyer, President Mary Fiore, Secretary Arlette Mooney, Treasurer Jemar Ward, Trustee
Excused:	Michael Mark, Trustee Marge McLoughlin, Vice President Melissa Roy, Trustee
Also Attending:	Christy Blanchette, Director Ashley Maraffino, Assistant Director Robert Dunbar, Dunbar Associates
Members of the Public:	Carida Ridoré Caroline Siecke-Pape

1. **Call to Order**- Frank Dwyer called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

2. **Public Comments** (limited to 3 minutes each) – Caroline Sieke-Pape encourages Trustees to see Banned Books exhibit.

3. **Approval of the minutes of the August 19, 2026 Meeting** –

   Moved by Jemar Ward and seconded by Mary Fiore the following resolution: RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the August 19, 2026 Valley Cottage Library Trustees meeting.
   Motion passes 4-0.

Approved 10/21/2026

4. **President's Report** -Frank Dwyer reminded all the Trustees to complete their 2026 training.

5. **Director's Report** - In addition to her written report, Christy Blanchette RCLS budget hearing sessions are coming up, 9/16 and 9/30. A significant increase is being asked.

6. **Treasurer's Report** - Arlette Mooney reports that August 2026 was in sound financial condition. Projecting to end year under budget.

   Moved by Mary Fiore and seconded by Jemar Ward the following resolution: RESOLVED that the Valley Cottage Library Board of Trustees accepts the Treasurer's Report of period ending August 31, 2026.
   Motion passes 4-0.

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

   Robert Dunbar from Dunbar Associates provided explanation and rationale for the plan amendments, options, and required changes that came as part of the Secure Act 2.0.

   a. **Retirement Plan Presentation and Recommendations –**
      - Valley Cottage Library has a generous match
      - The following are recommended for the Amendment
        - Mandatory Automatic Enrollment at 3%
        - Higher catch-up contributions at ages 60-63
        - Allow the life expectancy rule
        - Terminally Ill Individual Distribution
      - The following default distributions are NOT recommended to add to the plan at this time:
        - Not implement Roth employer contributions. Not a mandatory requirement until 2028. Payroll companies will test in 2027.
        - Emergency Personal Expenses
        - Domestic Abuse Victims
        - Qualified Disaster
        - Qualified Long Term Care
        - Qualified Automatic Contribution Arrangement
        - Qualified Birth and Adoption Distributions
        - Cash out requirement –for terminated employees. Not a mandatory requirement at this time.

Moved by Arlette Mooney and seconded by Jemar Ward the following resolution: RESOLVED: that the Trustees of the Valley Cottage Library approve the Retirement Plan Recommendations.

Motion passes 4-0.

b. **Finance Committee** –
   Will meet October 6, 7, or 8.
c. **Strategic Plan Committee** –
   Will meet potentially 10/22 at 6:30 p.m.

8. **Old Business** –

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

10. **Adjournment** -

Moved by Arlette Mooney and seconded by Jemar Ward the following resolution:
RESOLVED that the Valley Cottage Library Trustees meeting adjourned by Frank Dwyer at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Fiore, Secretary, Valley Cottage Library Trustees

The next Board meeting is Wednesday, October 21, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

Approved 10/21/2026