

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE SOUTH PARK TOWNSHIP LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER: A meeting of the South Park Township Library Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, January 13, 2025 in the South Park Township Library. Denise Sabolcik called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL: The following members were present:

Amanda DeKnight
Judy Woods
Al Stanish
Ed Farrington
Denise Sabolcik

Absent:
Donna Tressler

PUBLIC COMMENT:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Al Stanish made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting, Ed Farrington seconded.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT:

- Grants
 - Baughman Grants
 - Fall Munch & Learns have had record attendance
 - 6 programs attended by 285
 - Spring 2026 will be wellness themed
 - Donna has programs planned and registration will open soon
 - LSA Grant
 - Andrew Kuzma's office promised us money, but didn't actually approve it
 - Keystone Grant
 - Amanda had to abandon the grant due to the state making access difficult causing time constraints
 - Will reconsider for 2027 if still needed
- Programming Updates
 - Winter programming updates
 - Tami held the Wild World of Animals program last Saturday with 75+ patrons registered
 - Maddy is back to regular programming 3-4 nights a week for tween and teens including a new Harry Potter book club
 - Donna is finalizing an upcoming tea and munch and learns
 - No evening programs this month as they tend to have very low attendance due to the weather
 - 20th annual Friends Holiday Party was 12/11
 - Hawaiian Luau Christmas was the theme

- Very well attended—busy night
 - Adventure Trips
 - The behind-the-scenes tour of the Pittsburgh Zoo was on October 24
 - The final trip of the year was a Downtown tour on Molly's Trolleys on December 12
 - Signups filled up in minutes with a huge waitlist
 - Maybe something to revisit next December
 - Spring trips are in the planning stages
- Fundraising
 - Patio Project
 - Completed!
 - The Friends will be buying tables and chairs for outdoor seating
 - Ribbon cutting in the spring
 - 2025 Book Sales
 - Fall sale raised just shy of \$10k which is a record for the Friends
 - 2026 Sales
 - Spring-April 23-25
 - Fall-October 22-24
 - Teas
 - Donna & Amanda are going to try to coordinate an in-person tea and chocolate tasting for February rather than virtual
 - Winter Flower Sale
 - \$713 in sales which is lower than usual
 - Will need to decide if this is worth the time next year as profits are low
 - Appeals
 - The library had its best year yet, raising than \$18,000 in the month of September
 - \$19,395 to date with donations continuing to slowly come in
 - \$17,945 was the previous year's appeal donations
 - Holiday Market-Saturday, November 29
 - Very busy day of shopper as usual
 - Raised \$1,380, down slightly from 2024
- Other updates
 - RAD passes have expanded and are available year-round to all Allegheny County residents with library cards
 - Baker & Taylor, our primary book vendor, has gone out of business
 - We have moved to Ingram, but shipping is moving very slowly
 - We have been using Amazon who now offers library pricing on books but not DVDs
 - AV materials are being ordered from Midwest Tape with a quick turnaround
 - It was a long process of individually cancelling each item and reordering it
 - State funding
 - The state agreed to an increase to the library subsidy for 2026
 - To receive state funding, we need to spend 12% of our budget on materials
 - This has been a huge challenge for the first time in Amanda's career with the closing of Baker & Taylor and tariffs causing slow production
 - The library started a Library of Things to compensate for the lack of spending on books
 - Includes items like musical instruments, art supplies, and yard games that will circulate
 - In the process of figuring out how to catalog, create loan rules, package, etc.

- Hoping to remodel the back storage room that used to be the playroom
 - Tami needs storage shelves
 - The library needs a quiet space for virtual meetings and for patrons to study
- The library's furnace died in December and had to be replaced

Ed Farrington made a motion to accept the Librarian's report. Denise Sabolcik seconded the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Denise Sabolcik made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Ed Farrington seconded the motion.

BOARD COMMENTS:

- The next board meeting will be on Tuesday, February 10, at 11am at the library.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ed Farrington made a motion for adjournment. Denise Sabolcik seconded the motion.