

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY  
PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
May 28, 2026

Victoria called the meeting to order at 4:30pm.

**Confirmation of Quorum:** In-person attendance were members of the Board of Trustees: Victoria Fortuna, John Beardsley, Bonnie Jewell, Maureen Harris, Patti Peterson, Liz Conley, Michael Chamowitz, Patti Peterson, Kit Johnston and Jen Cable. Also attending: Library Director Amanda Weakley, FOL Representative Ruth Welch, Rappahannock News Reporter Ireland Hayes and members of the public: Mary Anthony, Chris and Nicole Wyant.

The meeting agenda was approved as presented.

The minutes of April 23, 2026 Board Meeting were approved.

**Library Design Draft Presentation:**

Gil Entzminger of Enteros Design presented by zoom video call, a draft design plan of the possible library relocation at the Rush River II location. Enteros Design worked with Rush River II and their architect Genzler to come up with a proposed floor and site plan with the objective being that the Library would have its needs and space necessary met.

The following are highlights of this proposed draft:

- Library overall square footage – 8000 square feet
- Common Event/Meeting Space for 200 people
- Library Common/Meeting Room for 75 people
- Common shared restrooms
- Common lobbies
- Two floors – bottom floor for Library and top floor for Offices
- Expanded parking for Library and to accommodate for additional Rush River II occupants and events
- Large outdoor space for events overlooking wetlands
- Landscaped pond to help with stormwater management
- Outdoor patio spaces with tables and umbrellas for outdoor seating
- Many other flexible outdoor spaces that could be utilized
- Green Roof over portion of Library to help with stormwater management requirements
- Possible solar panels for power source
- Greenspaces surrounding pond and wetland areas
- Separate Library entrance from parking lot as well as a common entrance along with Rush River II
- Library spaces would include – Flexible Activity Room, Adult Area Open Space, Teen Room, Program Room, Children’s Area with Children Staff Area, Expanded Staff Area

- Study room with soundproofing and more possibilities as the design / concept plan develops
- Large windows in Library and Activity Porch that can be accessed from the Children's Area
- Library will be gaining more overall space – indoor and outdoor – for Library inventory, programming, meetings and community usage

Gil stressed this is a draft presentation that is still a work in progress and in the concept phase – as the floor plan, elevation and site plan all have to be agreed upon and the design development plan will continue to bring in more specifics as things progress.

**FOL Report:** Ruth Welch from FOL reported that they had some questions for the Board about the possibility of relocation of the Library and they were sent in letter form to the Board. FOL is providing gift baskets and some gift prize incentives for the Summer Reading Program. FOL did not attend Sperryfest due to the rain / weather. FOL received \$5100.00 in donations during Give Local Piedmont.

**Public Comment:** Mary Anthony expressed that she would prefer a less modern design and space on walls for art – as Rappahannock is a creative community. Chris Nagle wondered about the use of the second floor for the Library, a great room of sorts and also about the elevation and if flooding would be an issue. Nicole Wyant also expressed the desire for art in spaces and places of creativity. They want it to be a place where people would stay and spend time.

**Report of the President:** Victoria will update and report in other committee reports.

**Report of the Library Director:** Amanda reported that the Library participated in DARE day at RCES and they promoted the Summer Reading Program. The Black Twig is providing gift certificates for the Summer Reading Program. The Blue Ridge Food Bank boxes have been delivered and they will start distribution in the coming weeks. They still need to hire Youth Services Librarians and they have a good pool of candidates to interview. Programming is busy with art and sewing classes and more. The Blue Ridge Heritage Project program about the displaced persons from Shenandoah National Park is coming up and it is expected to be well attended.

**Report of the Treasurer:** Treasurer Debbie Knick was absent and the report was presented by Bonnie. The report is through the end of April 2026 and the Virginia Investment Pool Report was also through the end of April 2026. The Library is running under budget in their expenditures at the end of April.

**Committee Reports:**

**Personnel:** None

**Negotiating Special Committee:** Victoria reported that the committee is waiting on comments from Rush River II per their initial comments to the draft Lease.

**Communications Committee:** Liz reported that they hosted another coffee hour on a Saturday and the attendance was 30 people. The FAQ's are now on the Library website under the expansion page for the public to view. There have been emails sent to individual Board Members and the Board as a whole about the possible Library Relocation. The Committee will be meeting again in the coming weeks to talk about next steps in their communication efforts.

**Capital Campaign Special Committee:** None

**Expansion/Renovation:** Covered by the Gil Entzminger presentation on draft of Library Design at Rush River II

**Buildings and Grounds:** None

**Finance:** None


**Policy:** None

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10pm

Submitted by Jen Cable, Secretary

  
Victoria Fortuna, President

  
Date