THE HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP FREE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
1601 Darby Rd, Havertown, PA 19083
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes (Final)

DATE: September 16, 2026

ATTENDING:
Alyce Callison, President
Regina Colantonio, VP
Debbie Cella, Treasurer
Deb Morley, Secretary
Craig Bruno, Trustee
Margaret Fox-Tully, Trustee
Scott Lowe, Trustee
Eric Schnittke, Trustee
Phil Goldsmith, Trustee Emeritus
Maryanne Olson, Director
Donna Reeves, Staff
Maggie Esteves, Staff
Julie Schultz, Staff

ABSENT: Larry Feinberg, Trustee

PUBLIC: Maura Duffy, Sherry Forste-Grupp, Kathleen Roe, Mia Wells, Christine Ferry

The meeting was called to order by Alyce Callison at 7:31 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **Motion: To** approve the minutes of the July 15, 2026, Board Meeting. Proposed by Margaret Fox-Tully, 2nd by Debbie Cella. Unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
Finance Committee: Debbie Cella
Debbie Cella reviewed both the July and August Balance Sheets and Income Statements for the year-to-year comparison and the year-to-date vs. projected budget comparison. Debbie reported that the library remains in a good financial position. Slightly ahead of projected budget and well ahead of last year.

Building Committee: Scott Lowe
Scott Lowe reported an additional 14 items have been cleared from the contractor punch list. The current major items being addressed are 1) ongoing leak in meeting room 3 which began during warranty period, and 2) leak in clerestory area over children's desk. The contractor determined that the intermittent elevator stoppages were due to a bad detector and they are currently overriding the circuit problem.

Fundraising Committee: Maggie Esteves in lieu of Board Chair
Maggie reported the Business Breakfast is upcoming on Sep 24 with several local public officials scheduled to attend. The Dewey Decimal Dash fundraising has begun and there are currently 13 business sponsors with more pledged. Library has received 2 grants in the amounts of $20,000 and $5,000.

Governance Committee: Alyce Callison
Alyce Callison reported the committee is working with DCL to receive Onboarding training. Will be discussing committees and assignments in future meetings.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Alyce Callison
Alyce Callison announced the new Library Trustees serving 3 yr. terms: 1) Township appointed Lawrence Feinberg, 2) Association elected Craig Bruno. Correspondence letters of thanks to the Library were read by Alyce.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Maryanne Olson
Maryanne reported a very successful and busy Summer Reading program as well as all other programming with an increase in participation from previous years. Adult Summer Reading had 215 total registrations with 558 reviews

submitted, 100 patron-reviewed books circulated, and 60 people turned in a "Shelf Help Summer" activity tracker. Youth Summer Reading had 513 youth registrations and 35 teens. In terms of patron visits, July was the busiest month since reopening (which is particularly notable since the Library is closed Sundays in the summer) with an increase in patron visits in June and August as well.

The Strategic Plan is underway with the community feedback/data gathering portion in process. The library received over 300 community survey responses including both online and in-person at township festivals and special meetings at the library, as well as 20 staff survey responses. Next step is to conduct focus group discussions with community organizations leadership, book club attendees, and MakerSpace participants scheduled in September as well as 7 additional focus groups planned in October. Maryanne will host two community forums - one on September 30th at 7PM and one on November 1 at 2PM with additional informal feedback sessions throughout September and October. The plan is to present our draft to the Board in February with it finalized in March and be able to present it out fully at the next Association Meeting in May.

There are some exciting new programs planned for the fall designed to showcase and use more of the spaces and resources. One program will work with the local chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha on a series of genealogy workshops to highlight some of the resources in the Preserving Your Memories Lab. The Youth Services Department is developing several new programs for tweens and their parents (including a “family” version of the popular cookbook club!). The Adult Services Department also planned a three-part “American Originals” series of concerts highlighting the history of American music genres: blues, jazz, and bluegrass. The first of the series was held on September 12 with over 30 people attending.

Related to the American Originals concerts – the Library received a grant from the Ethel Sergeant Clark Foundation to support this program. Some of that funding will be used to purchase books and music related to American musical traditions.

Finally, the Library is hosting and attending a number of major events over the next few months. The first is our Annual Business Breakfast on September 24 at 7:30AM. The second is Haverford Township Day on October 3. And finally, the 10th Annual Dewey Decimal Dash fundraiser will be held on November 7. The Friends will also be hosting their annual major book sale September 25, 26, and 27.

Library Statistics

	July 2025	**Jul 2026**	**Aug 2025**	**Aug 2026**
Annual Appeal (Campaign to date and YTD)	$36,566 (11/18/24-7/31/25) $9,477 (1/1/25-7/31/25)	$40,242 (11/18/25-7/31/26) $12,937 (1/1/26-7/31/26)	$36,806 (11/18/24-8/31/25) $9,717 (1/1/25-8/31/25)	$40,247 (11/18/25-8/31/26) $12,942 (1/1/26-8/31/26)
Patron Visits to the Library	8,286	16,488	7,038	15,673
Number of Patrons Checking Out HA Materials (includes HA patrons checked out through DCL)	5,148	9,769	4,714	9,314
Number of Physical HA Items Checked Out	17,089	30,509	14,932	27,141
Number of Digital Items Checked Out (Overdrive/Libby and Hoopla digital items)	11,006	12,128	10,980	12,169
Youth Programs Hosted	In-person: 34 Passive: 15	In-person: 54 Passive: 17	In-person: 33 Passive: 12	In-person: 46 Passive: 12

Youth Program Attendees	In-person: 1,437 (Children 813; Adults 624) Passive: 1,384	In-person: 1,542 (Children 868; Adults 674) Passive: 1,429	In-person: 1,155 (Children 607; Adults 548) Passive: 920	In-person: 1,432 (Children 813; Adults 619) Passive: 1,806
Teen Programs Hosted	In-person: 17 Passive: 0	In-person: 20 Passive: 4	In-person: 10 Passive: 0	In-person: 20 Passive: 8
Teen Program Attendees	In-person: 45 Passive: 0	In-person: 130 Passive: 260	In-person: 54 Passive: 0	In-person: 153 Passive: 643
Adult Programs Hosted (Including in-person and virtual formats via Zoom)	In-person: 32 Virtual: 6	In-person: 39 Virtual: 6	In-person: 33 Virtual: 5	In-person: 38 Virtual: 5
Adult Program Attendees (Including In-person programs and virtual formats via Zoom)	In-person: 260 Virtual: 63	In-person: 400 Virtual: 86	In-person: 314 Virtual: 35	In-person: 385 Virtual: 69
MakerSpace Programs Hosted	Youth: 14 Teen: 12 Adult: 13 Passive: 7	Youth: 14 Teen: 9 Adult: 26 Passive: 13	Youth: 12 Teen: 12 Adult: 13 Passive: 8	Youth: 11 Teen: 10 Adult: 21 Passive: 13
MakerSpace Program Attendees	Youth: 74 Teen: 41 Adult: 69 Passive: 1,095	Youth: 160 Teen: 35 Adult: 237 Passive: 1,646	Youth: 96 Teen: 32 Adult: 54 Passive: 1,585	Youth: 147 Teen: 45 Adult: 188 Passive: 1,284
Total Programs	**In-person: 122** **Virtual: 6** **Passive: 21**	**In-person: 162** **Virtual: 6** **Passive: 34**	**In-person: 113** **Virtual: 5** **Passive: 19**	**In-person: 146** **Virtual: 5** **Passive: 33**
Outreach for Youth and Adult Services Departments	n/a	Youth Services Events 0; Participants 0 Adult Services Events 0; Participants 0	n/a	Youth Services Events 0; Participants 0 Adult Services Events 2; Participants 95
HOMExpress	n/a	Patrons: 7 Items: 16	n/a	Patrons: 7 Items: 12
Items Added to Collection	Adult Ordered: 346 Adult Processed: 396 YSD Ordered: 186 YSD Processed: 862	Adult Ordered: 294 Adult Processed: 375 YSD Ordered: 128 YSD Processed: 424	Adult Ordered: 443 Adult Processed: 392 YSD Ordered: 382 YSD Processed: 277	Adult Ordered: 278 Adult Processed: 359 YSD Ordered: 127 YSD Processed: 639
Reference Inquiries (in-person includes phone inquiries; virtual includes website/online chat)	In-person: 235 Website Chat: 42	In-person: 506 Website Chat: 30	In-person: 351 Website Chat: 67	In-person: 847 Website Chat: 20
Book Drop Pickup	YMCA Items 543 CREC: Items 222	YMCA Items: 556 CREC Items: 140 TWP BLDG: 57	YMCA: Items 498 CREC: Items 195	YMCA Items: 502 CREC Items: 176 TWP BLDG: 32
New Library Cards Issued	399	242	317	208
Study Room Uses	Youth Dept: 134 Adult Services Dept: 177	Youth Services: 170 Adult Services: 355	Youth Dept: 129 Adult Services Dept: 259	Youth Services: 125 Adult Services: 363

FRIENDS LIAISON REPORT: Regina Colantonio

Regina Colantonio reported that the Friends Board meeting was attended by Eric Schnittke in August. He enjoyed meeting everyone. Board discussed future fundraising events. Regina attended the September meeting in which tabling for Haverford Township Day and Dewey Decimal Dash was discussed. Book donations are paused for Fall Book Sale which will be held next week.

NEW BUSINESS: Welcomed Craig Bruno and introduced him to the Board.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

The meeting entered Executive Session at 8:06 pm.

Executive Session Adjourned at 8:45 pm.