

Minutes for the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Amherst Public Library



Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 5:30pm

Meeting held at the:
Honorable Shirley Chisholm Library
 350 John James Audubon Parkway
 Amherst, NY 14228

A). Meeting called to order and attendance - **5:31 pm by David Saia**

Present: David Saia, Oliver Young, Marilyn Feuerstein, Penny Wolfgang, Jessica Black, Dr. Jamie Smith, Samantha Nephew (5:32 pm)

Excused absences: Carolyn Giambra, Patricia Dore

Also present: Director Kristi Dougherty, John Davis, and Laura Stachura

B). Review and Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on March 4, 2026

Motion to approve by Marilyn Feuerstein, seconded by Oliver Young.

All in favor.

C). Review and Approval of the Agenda for April 21, 2026

Motion to approve by Dr. Jamie Smith, seconded by Oliver Young.

All in favor.

D). Public comment - **None at this time.**

E). Report of the President - **David Saia, reported he participated in the following:**

3/21/26 - ACT meeting - Various trustees attended

4/16/26 - Online webinar - Mid-Hudson Library System - subject - Hiring and Evaluating library directors.

4/21/26 - National Library Workers Day - Staff at Amherst Public Libraries were treated to well-deserved goodies courtesy of the Board.

F.) Finances

- 2026 Budget
- County bills paid
- Williamsville bills paid
- Other bills paid

Motion to approve by Oliver Young, seconded by Marilyn Feuerstein.

All in favor.

G). Committee Reports

- **Town of Amherst Library Liaison – Councilmember John Davis – Inquired about the replacement of the old signage outside of the Honorable Shirley Chisholm Library. Discussion ensued.**

H). Report of the Library Director

- Buildings & Grounds

Williamsville:

The Village Beautification Committee has started spring work on the adjacent Mural Garden, circulation desk anti-fatigue mats replaced

Clearfield:

Heat pump & flickering parking lot lights repaired by Town, vacuum cleaner & dolly for trash cans replaced, quarterly maintenance repaired boiler issue

Hon. Shirley Chisholm Library:

Roof leak in workroom area repaired, broken tables replaced in Study Rooms 3 & 4, scraper mats cleaned & old ones replaced, Mary & George Bobinski Community Room plaque for outside of Community Room 1



Nate Phillips continued work on the bird mural in the children's area.

Egbertsville-Snyder:

Tree stump removed at front of building by Town, anti-fatigue mats replaced

All 4 Libraries:

Snack boxes for candy bar/snack fundraising are available at all branches. Fire alarms tested at each location; HVAC quarterly maintenance

- Library Material Circulation

Circulation of materials checked out in March 2026:

Hon. Shirley Chisholm - 37,701 Clearfield - 25,891
 Egbertsville-Snyder - 13,407 Williamsville - 3,155
 80, 154 materials circulated in March 2026!

- Programming

March/April events - Weekly storytime sessions, Technology Training, Computer Coaching, English Conversation Group, Adult Yoga, Mahjong Club, LEGO events, Book Clubs, Pokémon Club, Spring crafts for kids, Adult Crafts, Jewelry Making, Queerlit Book Club, Adult Yoga, Family Game Night, Interactive Storytelling with Indian hand movements, Earth Day Animal Spot-a-thon, Nickel City Guitar Quartet, Love Your Library Month Design a Tote Bag



Photos from the Williamsville Library - patrons decorated a B&ECPL tote bag for Love Your Library Month

Sweet Home Middle School held opening receptions for their middle school art show March 24 - 26, 2026 at the Honorable Shirley Chisholm Library. Artwork was on display March 20 - 27, 2026.



Sweet Home Art Show photos of display boards, pottery and assorted paper artwork propped up on easels in the children's area of the Hon. Shirley Chisholm Library

Clearfield Library – March 28 – April 11, 2026 - A local Girl Scout troop displayed informational posters in the children’s area to share with the community in pursuit of the Silver Award.



Clearfield Library children’s area with posters about various animals on a wall

The Williamsville Central School District Art Show will be on display at the Hon. Shirley Chisholm Library April 27 – May 10, 2026.



April 17, 2026 – Amherst Public Libraries were closed for a Professional Development Day. Librarians attended various sessions at the New York Library Association Youth Services Section Conference in Buffalo, New York. Sessions of note included: *Little Grants Matter*, *Celebrating Diversity Through Children’s Multilingual Story-time*, *Nature Literacy is Early Literacy: Battling Biophobia with Fun Library Programming*, *Teen Volunteer Programs: Working Smarter*, *Moving From Conflict to Collaboration: Using Talking Circles with Teens to Build Joyous Communities*, *Reshape Your S(h)elves: Building Culturally Responsive Collections*, *Catching Up: Summer Reading Buddies at Your Library*

- Book & Media Sales

Clearfield Library Pop-up Book Sale
March 4 – 7, 2026
\$1,496.45

Clearfield Library Pop-up Book Sale
May 6 – 9, 2026

I). Old Business – **none at this time.**

J). New Business

- Personnel Appointment
Pay Period 10 - Jennifer Lelinski, Librarian I
Transfer from Central Library to fill Librarian Trainee position, which was updated to Librarian I

Motion to approve by Penny Wolfgang, seconded by Oliver Young.

All in favor.

K). Correspondence/Other Items As Needed -**Thank you card was received from Hon. Shirley Chisholm staff for treats for the National Library Workers Day.**

Next meeting to be held:

Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at the Clearfield Library, Community Room

L). Adjournment - **6:00 pm.**

Motion to approve by Oliver Young, seconded by Marilyn Feuerstein.

All in favor.