

# Agenda for the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Amherst Public Library



Thursday, September 11, 2025 – starting at 5:30pm

Meeting will be held at the:

**Audubon Library (Community Room 1)**

350 John James Audubon Parkway

Amherst, NY 14228

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

**Present: Carolyn Giambra, Penny Wolfgang, Marilyn Feuerstein, David Saia, Patricia Dore, Oliver Young (arrived at 5:35 pm), Jessica Black (arrived at 5:43 pm), Jeffrey Voelkl (arrived at 5:47 pm)**

**Excused absence: Randy Harris**

**Also present: Director Kristi Dougherty, Laura Stachura**

B). Review and Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on July 9, 2025

**Motion to approve by Carolyn Giambra, seconded by David Saia.**

**All in favor.**

C). Review and Approval of the Agenda for September 11, 2025

**Motion to approve by David Saia, seconded by Penny Wolfgang.**

**All in favor.**

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

E). Report of the President – **none at this time**

F.) Finances

- 2025 Budget
- County bills paid

**Motion to approve by Marilyn Feuerstein, seconded by David Saia.**

**All in favor.**

- Williamsville bills paid

**Motion to approve by Marilyn Feuerstein, seconded by David Saia.**

**All in favor.**

- Other bills paid

**Motion to approve by Marilyn Feuerstein, seconded by David Saia.**

**All in favor.**

### G). Committee Reports

- Town of Amherst Library Liaison – **not in attendance. Sympathy card sent to Jacqueline Berger.**

### H). Report of the Library Director

- Buildings & Grounds

#### **Williamsville:**

Donor statue arrived and Village DPW secured the piece for future installation in the Mural Garden.

#### **Clearfield:**

Air conditioning issues – part ordered by Town, maintenance door handle & crash bar replaced by Town, copy machine issue fixed by vendor,

#### **Audubon:**

Roof leak in a staff workroom, holes patched and HVAC defrosting issue addressed by Town, yearly fire sprinkler inspection completed

#### **Egbertsville-Snyder:**

Old tables in meeting room replaced.

#### **All 4 Libraries:**

Quarterly HVAC preventative maintenance completed.

- Library Material Circulation

Circulation of materials checked out in July 2025:

Audubon – 45,582

Clearfield – 36,055

Egbertsville-Snyder – 15,797

Williamsville – 4,031

101,465 materials circulated in July 2025!

(Over 15,000 more materials were circulated between June and July – 19% increase)

Circulation of materials checked out in August 2025:

Audubon – 43,922

Clearfield – 32,615

Egbertsville-Snyder – 15,147

Williamsville – 4,067

95,751 materials circulated in August 2025!

- Programming

Fall events to feature - Weekly storytimes, Monthly Book Groups, Pokémon Club, Adult Craft Club, Drop-In LEGO Club, Mahjong Club, Spooky Booky Bash, Halloween Baby Rave, Diwali Family Party, Family Book Bingo, Chair Yoga, Fall Fairy Garden Doors presented by Smallwood Garden Club, Outdoor Observers Club, and more!

Summer Wrap-up: Additional Events included – Jewelry Workshops, English Conversation Group, Critter Clinic (100 attendees), Teacher Fair (98 educators – News 4 WIVB Buffalo interviewed librarians Katherine Pizzuto & Joan Stoltman for television)  
 “Sharing the Knowledge” statute dedication at Clearfield Library on August 24, 2025 by Town & Country Garden Club – Branch Manager Mary Lou Kinyon spoke on behalf of the Amherst Public Libraries – Event featured in the Amherst Bee



Pictured are Maria's family, with representatives of the Town and Country Garden Club and Clearfield Library – from left to right are: Elmer Gerbracht, Linda Anscombe (Town & Country Garden Club), Lorraine Gerbracht Myers, Mary Lou Kinyon (Clearfield Library), Brian Gerbracht and Donald Gerbracht.  
 Contributed photo

Summer Picnic - Thursday, August 14 at Audubon Library – 410 attendees

3,559 entries - bike raffle! 3,771 entries - local business gift card raffle!

- Book & Media Sales

Clearfield Library  
 September 10 – 13, 2025

Audubon Library  
 November 12 – 16, 2025









I). Old Business

- August 20, 2025 Building Closures at 4pm – **John Spears Celebration of life**  
**Motion to approve by Marilyn Feuerstein, seconded by Penny Wolfgang.**

**All in favor.**

J). New Business

- Statue Updates – **Discussion ensued regarding insurance coverage for the statues and moving forward to have all covered.**
- Carolyn Giambra suggested the Amherst Public Library Board of Trustees make a donation to the “Freedom to Read” Foundation in honor of John Spears. Discussion ensued.

**Motion to approve \$100 by Carolyn Giambra, seconded by Jeffrey Voekl.**

**All in favor.**

K). Correspondence/Other Items As Needed – **Notes were read by Director Dougherty from patrons in regards to their pleasant experiences at the Amherst Public Libraries, in addition to a personal letter of gratitude.**

This message is being extended with an incalculable measure of admiration and thankfulness to the entirety of The Amherst Public Library and in particular to the following staff of The Clearfield Branch Library:

Marylou Kinyon, Branch Manager

for her collective devotion, professional expertise with her spirit of genuine compassionate concern offered to each library patron regarding their vast array of questions that she then knowledgeably answers while fastidiously guiding every individual to successfully achieve their specific objectives. Ms. Kinyon holds has an impressive capacity of gentility and diplomacy and efficiency as she is implementing simultaneous details requested by numerous patrons, often with unforeseen complications that she resolves with a joyful and positive perspective all which serves as an inspirational role model to fellow staff and patrons, truly a rare and valued quality within the current pressured workplace.

Over the past two years, I have become acquainted with Ms. Kinyon while as a retiree and upon providing full time elder and end of life care for both my cherished parents over a span of twelve years; I was in need of re-entering the job market using my newly acquired medical care giving service skills. Unlike my prior decades of administrative experience at SUNY Buffalo, protocols and logistics required for electronic submission of job applications were new to me. On several occasions at the Clearfield Library I compiled stated application data, yet was confronted with numerous obstacles preventing me from submitting the final applications. It was Ms. Kinyon, who gently worked directly with me to meaningfully advise how to finalize my applications, ultimately resulting in my hire at a local cancer center.

Additionally: Clearfield Librarians Joan Stoltman and Mary Koenig offered to myself, a deeply sincere concern with an exemplary measure of technical competency throughout my application journey; as they do with significant dedication in kindly serving the unique priorities of all library patrons including enthusiastic young readers and their families.

Please know that the assiduous contribution to service of these BECL staff members, wholeheartedly brings joy into the lives of each patron and thereby to the largess our WNY community; it is a blessing of infinite degree to have the privilege to know them.

Next meeting to be held:

Tuesday, October 21, 2025 at 5:30pm at the Williamsville Library, Community Room

L). Adjournment

**Motion to approve by Jeffrey Voelkl, seconded by Marilyn Feuerstein.**

**All in favor.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:02 pm**