

Mount Pleasant Public Library: Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting of March 19, 2026

Trustees & Liaisons present:

Kent Anker, Julie Edwards, Edward Eisenman, Meredith Hale, Alexandra Kisielewski, Anthony Lohay, Nick Wargo

Also present:

Eric McCarthy, Library Director; Martha Mesiti, Assistant Director; William Link, Facilities; David Smyth, Town of Mount Pleasant Engineer

Trustees & Liaisons absent: Rebecca Myers, Paul Alvarez (Village Liaison), Tom Sialiano (Town Liaison)

Call to order

Administrative: Trustee Edward Eisenman, seconded by Trustee Anthony Lohay, called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

Minutes

The minutes of the February 26, 2026 Board meeting were approved. Moved by Trustee Nick Wargo, seconded by Trustee Julie Edwards, and passed.

Opportunity to Hear from the Public - None

Opportunity to Hear from Liaisons - None

Claims of Payment

After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Anthony Lohay and seconded by Trustee Meredith Hale that:

It is hereby resolved that, after review, the Library Board approves the following payments for the months of March 2026:

- Invoices charged against Trust & Agency Funds: \$438.22
- Invoices charged against the General fund: \$60,190.65
- General fund invoices paid via the Library credit card: \$3,016.57
- Transfer to Town of Mount Pleasant: \$7,524.88

Trustee Edward Eisenman presented his financial review of the monthly expenses and confirmed that the monthly spending reflects typical amounts for the winter season.

202603-01 The motion passed.

Directors Report

- Reminder to the Trustees about the process for taking oaths of office that is required to serve on the Library Board
- Library's amended Hoopla service contract that increases borrowing supply for patrons has been very successful and well received
- Library will be soon adding a notary service available to all patrons at no cost
- Library will be soon offering a Seed Library to patrons at no cost. This program will allow patrons to access seeds from a curated binder that they can plant in their own gardens.
- Library is planning to hold a plant swap open to all patrons at some point in the 2026 year - will be mindful of any overlap with other community-based plant events

After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Alex Kisielewski, and seconded by Trustee Anthony Lohay, that:

It is hereby resolved that the Library's 2025 New York State Annual Report be approved.

Director McCarthy provided highlights from the 2025 report including an increase in engagement with children's programs, increase in digital media circulation, and a decrease in physical media circulation.

202603-02 The motion passed.

Personnel

After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Edward Eisenman, and seconded by Trustee Julie Edwards, that:

It is hereby resolved that Luz Blume's appointment to the temporary position of three-quarter time Senior Clerk be extended for three months.

202603-03 The motion passed.

Old Business - Master Plan Project

- Trustee Kent Anker provided an overview of next steps for the Master Plan project. He shared details of a mock-up construction plan designed by Trustee Anthony Lohay. The project will move forward with the following elements:
 - Addition of a children's program room that will extend from the current children's section of the Library. This addition will allow for a more noise-controlled Library space and safe space for hosting children's programs.
 - Potential for including minor ACM abatement in ceiling and addition of energy efficient lighting
 - Purchase of furniture, AV equipment, associated interior materials (e.g. carpet), and youth-related sensory designs to better serve youth patrons
- General discussion about engaging the Friends of the Library group to support fundraising efforts related to future Master Plan expenses
- Next Steps in Master Plan:
 - Director McCarthy and select Trustees will move ahead in researching, reviewing, and contacting at least 3 potential architectural firms to hire for the Master Plan project. Engineering firms will be decided at a later date depending on whether the selected architect works with a dedicated engineering firm.
- Facilities Consultant William Link and Town of Mount Pleasant Engineer David Smyth shared their recommendations and guidance for aligning with the Town of Mount Pleasant on Master Plan approval and expectations
- Trustee Julie Edwards recommended additional research be done to: confirm the Library is not a protected historic building, confirm that it does not need to adhere to local architectural style, and better understand the fluctuation of future operating costs associated with Master Plan design
- General Trustee discussion regarding ways to collect input from the public on Master Plan design and construction decisions, perhaps a working group or public forum can be held
- Trustees are in agreement that a decision should be made in regard to an architecture firm to design the Master Plan before the April Library Board meeting

After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Julie Edwards, and seconded by Trustee Meredith Hale, that:

It is hereby resolved that the Library Board authorize Director McCarthy to engage and retain the services of an architect and related professionals to produce drawings and cost estimates for Phase 1 of the Mount Pleasant Library Master Plan project.

202603-04 The motion passed.

Trustee Alex Kisielewski moved for adjournment at 8:06pm, seconded by Trustee Anthony Lohay.

Next regular meeting: Thursday, April 16, at 7:00 P.M. at the Valhalla Branch location.

Respectfully submitted,
Alexandra Kisielewski
Secretary