Board of Trustees
of the Blauvelt Free Library
November 25, 2025

PRESENT: Kerry Beckmann (KB), Lawrence Dan Danner (LDD), Debbie Gallagher (DG), Lisa Honig-Andrea (LHA), Kathleen Lacker (KL), Donald Syko (DS), and Michael Andrea (MA). A quorum was determined based on the presence of these trustees.

Staff Present: Claire Morrissey (CM), Library Director, Joan Ready (JR), Library Treasurer, and Alice Ryan (AR), Friends of the Library, and Maria Valentino (MV), recording secretary.

EXCUSED ABSENCE FROM MEETING ATTENDANCE: Sal Pagnani (SP)

The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by Michael Andrea, Board President

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES:

Motion to accept the minutes of the October 28, 2025 meeting, with amendments, was made by KB, and seconded by DS. Motion passed unanimously by the quorum of Trustees.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

JR presented the Treasurer's report for October 2025. Board members asked questions regarding some of the line items and JR and CM explained in detail.

Motion to accept the October 2025 Treasurer's report was made by LDD, and seconded by KL. Motion passed unanimously by the quorum of Trustees.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

CM reviewed monthly stats and issues to be addressed in New Business, Old Business and General Maintenance/Operational Items. Program attendance and circulation are doing well. Notaries are still in high demand. CM wants to look into tightening up the internet use and what they are using it for. Board discussion ensued.

NEW BUSINESS:

Appointment of Trustees

A motion to approve the following Trustees to serve a new term of three years, as per the Library's Bylaws, was made by KB, and seconded by LHA. Motion passed unanimously by the quorum of Trustees.

Dan Syko: Term- January 2026 to December 2029
Kathleen Lacker: Term- January 2026 to December 2029
Dan (Lawrence) Danner: Term- January 2026 to December 2029

A motion to nominate and approve the following new Trustee to serve a term of three years, as per the Library's Bylaws, was made by KB, and seconded by KL. Motion passed unanimously by the quorum of Trustees.

Theona Jensen: Term- January 2026 to December 2029

Review of Proposed New and Updated Library Policies
CM would like the Trustees to review the policies she sent them and email her with any comments as soon as possible. MA indicated that SP has already sent in his comments and notes.

Update to Employee Manual/Policies for 2026
CM is working on updating the manual. Board discussion ensued.

Replacement Chairs/Tables for Main Floor

CM advised that the order has been submitted and the 5 chairs and table will cost $8,943.48.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town/School Funding 2026
CM advised that the board received the SOCSD funding in the amount of $207,916.24 ($83.76 was deducted from the full amount of $208,000 due to a small claims assessment refund to eight Blauvelt homeowners). The Orangetown 2026 Adopted Budget has been posted and the Blauvelt Free Library will receive $692,968 funding from the Town in January, 2026.

Donation to Library-Lithograph
CM advised that Lynne Warshavsky (LW), Programs and Public Relations, reached out to the Orangeburg County Historical Society regarding the donated framed lithograph photo of a George Washington event. They indicated that it had no real value. They asked the patron who donated it if they would be open to loaning it to the Orangeburg

County Historical Society and they loved the idea.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE/OPERATIONAL ITEMS:
CM reported that the fall clean up was done by Luna Landscape. The Gutter cleaning will occur the week of November 24th by Rockland Housewashing. The Bathroom privacy door knobs have been ordered. The plumber has replaced the broken faucet in the main floor bathroom. We will review Dream Energy for electricity options.

MISCELLANEOUS:
CM distributed the 2026 Holiday Closings to the Trustees. They were reviewed and updated.

Motion to approve the amended 2026 Holiday Closings was made by KB, and seconded by KL. Motion passed unanimously by the quorum of Trustees.

DS advised that he and LDD went to see the new Lions Sign. LDD advised that the hedges touching the Library sign on Western highway have been trimmed back. MK noticed a sign about the Children's Holiday event at the firehouse and CM advised that the local libraries are getting involved

MK advised that he, AR and KB have been honored by the Lions this month and that they were each given a plaque. MK thanked the Blauvelt Lions for collaborating with us with the sign.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT:

Report by Friends of Blauvelt Free Library delivered by AR. She met with various people to run the spring garage sale, wine and cheese event, and a trip to the Botanical Gardens geared to families (May 30th possibly in conjunction with St. Catherine's). AR reached out to the busing company to see availability and cost. Ideas for other outings and events are always welcome.

ADJOURN MEETING:

A motion for adjournment of the Public meeting was made at 7:45 PM by KB and seconded by LDD. Motion passed unanimously by a quorum of Trustees.

Next meeting is scheduled Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at 7:00 PM.