Gilbertsville Free Library

November 2, 2026, Board Meeting

Trustees- Marie Stebbins, Amy Favinger, Susan Freyermuth, Annmarie Hill, Elizabeth Bankus, Tim Stark, Scarlett Newman, Ashley Strickland

Trustees Absent-

The meeting was called to order at 6:59 by Marie Stebbins, President.

Secretary's Report- attached minutes from the 8/25/26 meeting

Motion to approve minutes was made by Amy Favinger and seconded by Tim Stark. Motion carried

Treasurer's Report- see attached

Tim has contacted the Town of Butternuts to look for their check.

Motion to receive the treasurer's report was made by Elizabeth Bankus and seconded by Susan Freyermuth. Motion carried

Library Manager- see attached

Ideas regarding the collection of winter accessories include a small tree in the window with a wrapped box under for donations. Patrons can help themselves as needed. If there are leftovers, we can find places to distribute.

Microsoft Office 24 is $55 to upgrade on the patron computer.

Application for NY Forward grant can be submitted in January.

Amanda Cheung would like to offer tech help hours during her shifts. If there is too much interest will reach out to the school to see if any kids would like to volunteer. She will try Saturday at 10-noon starting 11/7.

Amanda would like to start the High Mowing seeds fundraiser again a little earlier this year in mid-January.

Elizabeth Bankus made a motion to accept the library manager's report seconded by Scarlett Newman. Motion carried

Historical Committee- see attached

Furnace room door will be left open for dehumidifier to reach both rooms.

Elizabeth Bankus made a motion to accept the historical committee report and seconded by Ashley Strickland. Motion carried

Old Business- Marie has a call into code/zoning regarding neighbors on both sides over the property line. Several life members have offered to help clean up the backyard.

Trustees need to submit proof of completing continuing ed credits.

Marie contacted a couple businesses regarding benches and was quoted over $3k for the in Memory of Mr. Jones. Peegee hydrangea tree will be purchased from the greenhouse. A cast iron bench is another good option that will be investigated.

Another possible income revenue can be from school taxes. A line item would be included for the library, but the overall tax would increase because of that line item. Would have to be voted upon at the school vote. Need a trustee to get more info on this process. This could be done in place of the letter campaign. Amy will reach out for info to be submitted in the campaign newsletter. “Thank you” postcards can no longer be sent out. A new form will be sent out in its place.

Elizabeth Bankus made a motion to keep the historian committee hours the same as the library hours seconded by Susan Freyermuth. Motion carried

Our cleaner, Marna, is retiring. A new cleaner will be hired hopefully at the same price per hour at $16.50.

New Business- Upcoming board meeting Thursday, January 14th at 6:30.

Motion to adjourn at 8:17 was made by Elizabeth Bankus and seconded by Amy Favinger. Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Bankus, secretary