

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Eastern Monroe Public Library

The regular scheduled monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Eastern Monroe Public Library was held remotely and in person on June 17, 2025.

Present: Betsy Buzzelli-Clarke, Trudie Lear, Dawn Migliacci, Aaron DeAngelo
Pete Pappalardo, Jason Phillips, Wanda Lesoine, Judy Magann

Absent: Debbie Kulick

Staff in attendance: Cheryl Brice, Rose Hewitt, Julie Bonser, Hope Kuchinski, Suzanne Campbell from PTL

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 A.M. by Board President Trudie Lear.

President's Remarks: T. Lear welcomed Erin Morrow, our district library consultant from Easton, as well as the public attendees.

Minutes of the May 21, 2025 meeting P. Pappalardo/W. Lesoine moved to accept the minutes of the May 21, 2025 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments: A small group of patrons of the PTL attended the meeting to give comments concerning the closing of that branch of the library. They came in support of keeping the library branch open.

Treasurer's Report –Copies of the treasurers report were circulated before the meeting.
B. B-C/J. Magann moved to approve the current bills as presented and the measure passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Buildings and Equipment : We are still waiting for Nauman to complete the underside of the front of the building. The fence is yet to be put up in the courtyard area.

Policy and Operation: None

Fundraising: None

Publicity & Community Relations: None

Personnel: None

Ad Hoc Committees:

Smithfields: None

PTL: A lengthy discussion ensued concerning the imminent closing of this branch. At the April 15, 2025 the motion was made by P. Pappalardo and seconded by A. DeAngelo to close this branch as of June 30. The vote to close the branch was unanimous at that meeting. The question arose as to rescinding this vote. Prior to the final vote, President T. Lear asked that her following remarks be included in the minutes. After making her statements, T. Lear officially resigned as president of the board.

The members of the board were polled and the original motion to close was upheld.

I would like the minutes to reflect my viewpoint clearly on this issue...I would like them to say that=

During the meeting, President Trudie Lear expressed strong opposition to the proposal for shutting down this library branch.

“All we needed was more time and some sensibility to change a negative energy into a positive force”

Ms Lear also emphasized the importance of literacy and access to information, stating,

“I did not join this Board to shut down a small neighborhood hub of a library that served generations of Pocono and Jackson Township residents.”

“This is a shame “

Director's Report – *A full copy had been distributed by email prior to the meeting.*

Still working on the outside entrance project. Request for bids have gone out for the parking lot and security cameras. The first event has been held in the garden area. The Friends booksale was a success.

Adult Services Report – *A full copy had been distributed by email prior to the meeting.*

Approx. 20 users have signed up to use a new data base program on test prep. There have been about 400 attendees over 38 programs

Youth Report: *A full copy had been distributed by email prior to the meeting.*

Summer reading has begun. Approximately 100 people came to story time featuring a therapy dog.

Old Business – None

New Business:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am on a motion by P. Pappalardo/J. Magann. The motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be held remotely and in person at 8:30 am on July 15, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betsy Buzzelli-Clarke
Board Secretary