

**MINUTES OF MEETING
FEBRUARY 17, 2025
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE TOWN HALL LIBRARY
TOWN OF MERTON, WISCONSIN**

- I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 3:45 pm by President Cull. Also attending were Trustees Dolphin, Herrick, Mesenbrink, Rogers Blum, Ruck, Library Director Iyengar, and town residents Robin LeVan and Joe LeVan.
- II. Public Input:**
Robin LeVan asked what are considered library programs. Iyengar gave a brief synopsis of the programs currently offered, and said all programs are listed on the library's web site. LeVan then asked what happened to old books that had been removed from the library shelves. Iyengar described several different ways in which old books are managed. LeVan then wanted to know what is happening with the electronic sign and Iyengar replied it is being discussed. Joe LeVan asked that this meeting be rescheduled to a more convenient time for him to attend. He said the library finances and the town finances seem to disagree. Iyengar assured him that the finances are in order, and that financial statements and audits are available on the web site.
- III. Consent Agenda:**
- a. The Minutes of the January 27, 2025 meeting were unanimously approved on Motion by Cull, seconded by Dolphin.
 - b. The Statistics report was accepted as presented.
- IV. Committee Reports:**
- i. Director's Report:
 - January statistics were very satisfactory, increasing in most categories.
 - Adult programs continue to have spotty attendance; visits from North Lake School students continue to be very strong. A number of new programs are being offered, and others are in the planning stages.
 - Wall remediation and restoration in the lower level has been completed, and includes an expanded Makerspace.
 - She and Dolphin and a patron attended Library Legislative Day in Madison; Iyengar presented testimonials from patrons and North Lake School students.
 - She shared some testimonials from patrons which were received during National Library Lovers Month.
 - ii. Bridges Library System:
 - The reports were accepted as presented.
 - iii. Friends Liaison:
 - The Friends board expressed compliments for the new electronic sign.
 - A gardening program by Melinda Meyers is in the final planning stages and will held be on a Saturday morning at the North Lake School.
 - The Friends are getting quotes for lawn, tree and shrub maintenance, and will fund these services.
 - Save the date of May 29 for the Friends Annual Meeting, Banquet and fund-raising Silent Auction. Donations for the auction from the Library Board are always appreciated.
 - iv. Foundation Liaison:
 - No report.

v. Town Board Liaison:

- The Town Board will meet with the Library Board at 5:00 pm on Monday, March 10, 2025.

vi. School Board Liaison:

- North Lake School will participate with the library in the Read Across America event on March 3.
- They are coordinating with the library on a calendar for next year.
- A parenting class is being planned.
- A collaboration between the North Lake school and the library is working on standards research and recommendations.

V. Financial Reports:

- a. January, 2025 invoices for \$46,255.84 were unanimously approved on Motion by Rogers Blum, seconded by Cull.
- b. January, 2025 petty cash report for \$172.00 was approved unanimously on Motion by Rogers Blum, seconded by Cull.

VI. Unfinished Business:

None.

VII. New Business:

- a. Revisions to the Emergency Closings and Safety Policy were discussed, and changes recommended. Iyengar will draft a revised policy and present it at a future meeting. The Insurance and Retirement Benefits Policy was unanimously approved on motion by Cull, seconded by Rogers Blum.
- b. Motion by Cull, seconded by Rogers Blum and unanimously carried, to approve the 2024 Annual Report
- c. Discussion of electrical outlet issues was tabled on motion by Cull, seconded by Mesenbrink and unanimously approved.
- d. Motion by Cull, seconded by Dolphin and unanimously approved to close the library on April 25 for a staff education day.
- e. After discussion, motion by Rogers Blum, seconded by Dolphin, to approve a \$1,856.00 expense to Library Strategist and Consultant Melissa McLimans to partner with the library on a community survey for the required 2026-2030 Strategic Planning. Iyengar will apply for a Bridges grant for Strategic Planning assistance.

VIII. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:04 pm on Motion by Cull, Seconded by Herrick, and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary L. Rogers Blum
Secretary

Next Meeting: Regular Library Board of Trustees
March 17, 2025 at the Town Hall Library at 3:45 pm

