

**MINUTES OF RESCHEDULED MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN HALL LIBRARY
TOWN OF MERTON, NORTH LAKE, WISCONSIN**

FEBRUARY 24, 2026

- I. Call to Order:** The meeting which was rescheduled from February 16, 2026 due to lack of quorum was called to order at 3:46 pm by Vice President Mesenbrink. Also attending were Trustees Dolphin, Fleming, Rogers Blum, Ruck, Stover, and Library Director Iyengar. Trustee Boettcher joined the meeting via Zoom at 4:13 pm.
- II. Public Input:** None.
- III. Consent Agenda:**
- a. The Minutes of the January 19, 2026 meeting were unanimously approved on Motion by Mesenbrink, seconded by Ruck.
 - b. Iyengar pointed out that there have been changes in reporting statistics; for example, adults who are accompanying children for a self-directed activity will not be counted in the children's statistics. The Statistics report was accepted as presented.
- IV. Committee Reports:**
- i. Director's Report:
 - Statistics continue to improve.
 - She presented a visual report "2025 By The Numbers" which identified various categories in an attention-getting format. Trustees were enthusiastic about the report and suggested various numbers be highlighted in the newsletter each month.
 - Programs for children and youth continue to be popular, and adult programming is seeing improvement. The winter reading program was very well received, and programming is ongoing for Library Lover's month in February.
 - Staff members have made efforts to congratulate each other on their performance.
 - She and Trustee Dolphin attended Library Legislative Day on February 10, 2026 in Madison. They met with legislators and presented testimonials from library patrons and North Lake School students.
 - Work continues on ADA compliance issues. She has requested quotes for an automatic opener for the front door and for shelving in the young adult area.
 - ii. Bridges Library System:
 - The reports were accepted as presented.
 - iii. Friends Liaison:
 - The Friends continue to plan events to celebrate the library's 60th anniversary. There will be a birthday party for children on May 1, a float for the July 4 parade in Stone Bank, and another party may be planned for fall.
 - The Annual Meeting, including a dinner and a silent auction fundraiser, is scheduled for May 21, and it is hoped the trustees will attend, contribute items to the fund raiser, and that they will join the Friends if they have not already done so.
 - iv. Foundation Liaison:

No report.
 - v. Town Board Liaison:
 - The Library Trustees have been invited to the Town's Board meeting at 6:30 pm on March 9, 2026 to discuss the library's 2027 budget.

- vi. School Board Liaison
 - There is interest in developing a writing club.
 - North Lake School Superintendent Dr. Ackley has expressed interest in the fund raiser paving bricks at the library and the possibility of a campaign to add to them.

V. Financial Reports:

- a. January, 2026 invoices for \$33,889.63 were unanimously approved on Motion by Mesenbrink, seconded by Stover.
- b. January, 2026 petty cash report for \$114.00 was approved unanimously on Motion by Rogers Blum, seconded by Dolphin.

VI. Unfinished Business:

None.

VII. New Business:

- a. The Trustees reviewed Waukesha County's New Minimum to Exempt Standards and Quality Assurance Standards 2027-2031. After considerable discussion, Motion by Mesenbrink, seconded by Ruck, and unanimously approved, to not endorse the standards, and to reply to the County as follows:

“As the Town Hall Library Board of Trustees, we take our duty to provide high quality services to our Town and library community seriously. Our patrons acknowledge, support, and expect these superior services, as evidenced by a recent survey giving us 99.9% approval ratings. We feel that the Plan’s proposed reductions in standards will lead to lower quality library services. We already operate with the exact minimum of municipal taxation to exempt from the Waukesha County library levy. We do not endorse the reduction in materials expenditure per capita minimum, which does not address inflation. And with a charmingly unique library building on three levels, we likewise do not endorse the reduction in FTE standard. While the Plan claims to provide more flexibility to libraries and their library boards, we feel it will have the opposite effect. We vote unanimously not to endorse the proposed standards.”

- b. Motion by Ruck, seconded by Rogers Blum and unanimously approved, to approve the Public Library Annual Report and to authorize President Cull to sign it.
- c. A post card campaign to make town residents aware of the library was discussed. It may be possible to obtain a grant for this activity. Fleming will talk with the Town about including information about the library with the Town’s property tax bill mailing.

VIII. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm on Motion by Mesenbrink, seconded by Rogers Blum and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary L. Rogers Blum
Secretary

Next Meeting: Regular Library Board of Trustees
March 16, 2026 at the Town Hall Library at 3:45 pm

