

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

**JANUARY 19, 2026**

- I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 3:45 pm by President Cull. Also attending were Trustees Dolphin, Mesenbrink, Rogers Blum, Ruck, Stover, and Library Director Iyengar.
  
- II. Public Input:** Iyengar had a conversation with a patron who was highly complimentary about the library, and who Iyengar described as a great publicist for the library, as she praises it wherever she goes.
  
- III. Consent Agenda:**
  - a. The Minutes of the December 15, 2025 meeting were unanimously approved on Motion by Mesenbrink, seconded by Dolphin.
  - b. The Statistics report was accepted as presented.
  
- IV. Committee Reports:**
  - i. Director's Report:
    - Statistics for 2025 were greatly improved compared to 2024, with most categories showing significant improvement.
    - Programs for children and youth continue to be popular, and adult programming is seeing some improvement.
    - Strategic Planning 2026-2030 is now on the web site.
    - Staff has identified a strategic goal of reevaluating the young adult space and its collection as an initial objective for this year.
    - Library Legislative Day will be February 10 in Madison. Iyengar and Dolphin are planning to attend.
    - The Town is implementing a new telephone system, which will be installed before the end of January.
    - The Friends of the Town Hall Library has purchased Milwaukee Art Museum passes for the library which are now circulating.
  - ii. Bridges Library System:
    - The reports were accepted as presented.
  - iii. Friends Liaison:
    - Dolphin reported the Friends are happy to be able to fund passes for the library, now including the Milwaukee Art Museum.
    - The Friends are planning a number of events to celebrate the library's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
    - The Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 26, and it is hoped the trustees will attend and contribute to the silent auction fund raiser.
    - All of trustees are invited to become members of the Friends of the Town Hall Library.
  - iv. Foundation Liaison:
    - No report.
  - v. Town Board Liaison:
    - No report.

- vi. School Board Liaison:
  - Story Night will be held on February 5 from 5:00 to 6:30 pm at North Lake School.
  - Events are being planned for Read Across America in Spring.
  - An informational program on AI is being planned for adults.

**V. Financial Reports:**

- a. December, 2025 invoices for \$41,704.21 were unanimously approved on Motion by Rogers Blum, seconded by Dolphin. It was noted the town accountant stated on her report that December, 2025 figures were not final.
- b. December, 2025 petty cash report for \$145.00 was approved unanimously on Motion by Rogers Blum, seconded by Cull.

**VI. Unfinished Business:**

None.

**VII. New Business:**

- a. July 3 closing was inadvertently missed when the 2026 holiday closing schedule was approved. On Motion by Cull and seconded by Ruck, closing on July 3, 2026 was unanimously approved.
- b. Motion by Ruck, seconded by Cull and unanimously approved, to adopt the IRS mileage reimbursement rate for library staff expense reimbursements.
- c. Discussion was held regarding the young adult collection and its location in the library. It was generally agreed that these areas need attention; Iyengar will work with the staff and report back with their ideas and recommendations.
- d. An in-depth discussion was held regarding ACT 150 updates which are currently in committee. Motion by Cull, seconded by Ruck, that we continue to monitor these changes, which may have a significant impact on our collection size and staffing. Motion carried unanimously.

**VIII. Adjournment:**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary L. Rogers Blum  
Secretary

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

