

Minutes of the Ellsworth Public Library Board of Trustees January 21, 2026

Attending: Sarah Lesko, Craig MacDonald, Kathleen Cravens, Berit Becker, Judith Lyles, Rain Perez, Vivek Phillip, Guest Marina Smith

Prior to the meeting we had an investment presentation by Camden National Bank. Our cash disbursement this year is \$3,723.23.

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Rain Perez at 6:44 pm.

Public Comment: None

CONSENT AGENDA

- Friends of the Library Report not available at time of meeting
- Director's report
- Building and Grounds
- Secretary Report Minutes of September 23,2025
- Financial Report and Planning

A motion was made by Judith and seconded by Kathleen to approve the consent agenda.

Old Business

Sarah gives us an overview of staff's input on the Branding. We are now in the process of choosing colors. All colors are accessible. Sarah reminds us to keep in mind that we need to wrap up this decision as we need to apply the new color scheme to our Book bike . We will want the colors to be vibrant to catch people's attention and also will serve as a safety feature to be highly visible. We are going to enlist Downeast Graphics to provide some mock ups in the various colors for us. As a Board we are supportive of the choices made by Sarah and the staff. We formalize this by a vote that is unanimous in favor of staff choice.

Sarah also reports on the building update. Cost estimates are due soon. We will provide information about our plan on the second Monday in February to the City Council. The workshop is a discussion in which we have an opportunity for both the library and the Council to discuss the plans as presented and then tweak them as needed. We do have some cost estimates from Carla which we can compare to knowing that there is a time lapse and costs continue to rise.

New Business

Gary Friedman and Associates have started on the Feasibility study. They are very thorough and helpful. Ten members from the community have agreed to serve on the committee.

Sarah reports that we are in need of 2 copiers. The price point of a copier is approximately \$6,000.00. Since the community at large uses and benefits from this piece of equipment it may be something we could discuss with the Hancock County Commissioners to help with cost. Also our laptops are also in great need for replacement. City Hall is aware of this and we also will possibly explore asking the Friends to purchase one or more.

We vote unanimously to place our earned income of \$3,700.00 in First National account so we can earn interest yet access it if needed.

Our Budget is due and Charlie the city manager has requested that all departments keep within a 2% increase. Sarah would like to add new computers and reimbursements for staff mileage as needed. Sarah has made the following cuts: reduced professional memberships and reduced postage budget. In summary Sarah is submitting her budget to Charlie WITH A 3.9% increase which we are very supportive of.

Sarah then explains the sustainable library project that she has introduced to the staff. It started in October in Hancock County and allows access to webinars, prompts and a mentor once a month.

At the completion, in 18-24 months, we will have a certificate and will have mastered composting, recycling, decrease use of plastics, and change processes by example. We are very impressed and applaud Sarah for this initiative.

Sarah reports that James has rejoined the library staff and everyone is thrilled with his return to the desk and his assistance with the public.

Annual APPEAL Update is \$29,278.00

Executive session per MRSA Title 1, Chapter13,Sec406,Paragraph 6A to discuss employment matters

Entered 6:34 P.M. exit 6:41 P.M.

DECISIONS, Action Items and Next Steps

ADJOURNMENT 8:15 pm

Next meeting is February 18, 2026

Respectively submitted,

Kathleen Cravens

Kathleen Cravens, Secretary