Wenonah Free Public Library
Board Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2026

Attendees: Linda Helmbrecht, Ellen Hummel, Deb Cline, Susan Mayer, Gary Christensen, Colleen Johnson, Chrissy DeMaise and Anne Zuber.

President L. Helmbrecht called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm at which time the Open Public Meeting Notice was read: ***In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey, notification of this meeting has been sent to The Courier Post and posted on the library's webpage and on the bulletin board in the library. In addition, a link to the library home page Legal Notices tab is advertised twice monthly in The Sentinal of Gloucester County and on the NJ Department of State legal notices link.***

- The Board approved the meeting minutes for May 6, 2026. (Motion by C. DeMaise/Seconded by S. Mayer/All in favor.)
- Treasurer's report: Bank balances as of June 3, 2026: TD Bank checking $3,289.44 and savings $39,961.39. Total: $43,250.83.
- The Board approved the May 2026 bills list. (Motion by G. Christensen /Seconded by S. Mayer /All in favor.)

Librarian Report

- New bee activity in the roof began around April 22, 2026. Monitoring.
- Orange fire hydrant will be anchored by Lion's Club. Date TBD.
- New Wenonah Library brochure being prepared for publication. Waiting for new museum pass to be finalized.
- New museum passes funded by Woman's Club of Wenonah have arrived and been advertised: Academy of Natural Sciences, Please Touch Museum and Mutter Museum. Wenonah Historical Society has funded a pass to the National Constitution Center. Being processed.
- Deptford Electric installed lighting around front sign. Anne is trying solar light from Amazon for flag area.
- Circulation desk computer issues have continued. Max Pozza works on it during Tech Time on Thursdays.
- This year's Summer Reading Theme is "Unearth a Story," dinosaur theme. Edelman Fossil Park staff are scheduled to present the finale program on Thursday, July 30th. Advertising has begun. Registration available June 1, 2026.
- June 1st is National Dinosaur Day, which is when Library begins April Madgey's planned monthlong reading incentive program featuring dinosaurs. Edelman Fossil Park gave six day passes to use as prizes.
- State now requires two hours training per year for library trustees. Linda is forwarding notifications from NJSL to all board members to make everyone aware of opportunities for training. Linda Helmbrecht completed 1hour on line. Gary Christensen reported 2.5 hours on line training. We will add a record keeping line to monthly stats report.
- Tischler grant has been announced. Application opens June 22, 2026. This grant is for smaller libraries. Up to $3000.00 available. Anne will prepare application. Considering a grant proposal to replace StoryWalk stations. So far quotes are ranging from about $4,100.00 to 10,000.00+. Anne still investigating.
- Bank of America purchasing card management is being transitioned to USBANK. Anne has forwarded required paperwork and is awaiting further communication from them. In the meantime, Library has switched Amazon billing to Bill by Invoice payment method.

- Anne contacted seven slate roof professionals from the Slate Association.org site, as well as Emmons, the company that has worked on our roof for years. To date, one company scheduled to evaluate the roof. (This is related to Strategic Plan action step.)
- Anne contacted several "handy-persons" to quote on Library's to-do list; refinish front door, seal basement window, modify table for computer cables, and refinish sides of audio/dvd racks. One person came out to evaluate work but did not provide a quote. Two others are scheduled to visit next week.
- Anne will join Gateway Librarian, Kathy Bially, to visit Wenonah School 6th grade students on Monday, June 8th to kick off their Summer Reading program. Wenonah librarians will verify participation by signing their packets and giving incentives.
- Wenonah Historical Society is sponsoring an America 250 House Decorating Contest. Library will collect entries. Library also expected to be the collection point for July 4th parade entries, race registrations & memorial donations.

Board of Trustees Business

- Cynthia Mullens has offered a donation to fund something in memory of her husband John. Action pending.
- S. Mayer updated the Board on her contacts with the Library's auditor regarding financing of anticipated capital expenditures for roof and heating/air conditioning. Next step is to obtain quotes, which Anne has already undertaken.
- The Board reviewed April Madgey's proposed plan for Community Outreach. S. Mayer will further review, compare with Strategic Plan and meet with April to discuss.

Friends of Wenonah Library

- "Meet the Author" event with Vinny Malfitano on May 29, 2026 went well. 20 people attended. Event with Sam Carchidi is scheduled for June 5, 2026 from 7 to 8:00 pm at the Train Station. Nick "Nor'easter" Pittman has accepted but not yet chosen a date. No response yet from Bryon MacWilliams.
- Niki Odenbrett is investigating the program through Arrayscape Gaming for Minecraft, Roblox and other video, on-site, and hybrid programs. $400.00. Plan to coordinate with schools to see about overlap in features, etc.
- Niki ordered orange azalea shrub to go with fire hydrant.
- Oral history project pending.

L. Helmbrecht adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm. (Motion by S. Mayer/Seconded by G. Christensen/All in favor.)

Next Meeting: July 1, 2026

7:30 pm on first Wednesday of the month in 2026: 1/7/2026, 2/4/26, 3/4/26, 4/1/26, 5/6/26, 6/3/26, 7/1/26, 8/5/26, 9/2/26, 10/7/26, 11/4/26, 12/2/26 and in 2027, 1/6/26

Holidays for 2026: 1/1/26, 5/25/26, 7/4/26, 9/7/26, 11/26/26, 12/24/26, 12/25/26, 12/31/26.