Wenonah Free Public Library
Board Meeting Minutes
May 6, 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 7:30 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 April 1, 2026. (Motion by G. Christensen/Seconded by S. Mayer/ C. DeMaise abstained. All others in favor.)
- Treasurer's report: Bank balances as of May 6, 2026: TD Bank checking $2,551.65 and savings $44,959.66. Total: $47,511.31.
- The Board approved the April 2026 bills list. (Motion by S. Mayer/Seconded by C. Johnson/All in favor.)

Librarian Report

- Arrayscape Gaming program pending.
- Bee activity around the roof noted about April 22, 2026. Monitoring.
- Lions' Club will anchor orange fire hydrant. Date TBD.
- New Wenonah Library brochure being prepared.
- 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.
- Modified lighting for new library sign was planned for April 6, 2026 but had to be rescheduled. Anne will investigate solar lighting for the flag bracket area.
- Awaiting $12.00 invoice from Ingram book supplier to settle account.
- 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. Planning meeting held on April 22, 2026.
- June 1st is National Dinosaur Day. April Madgey has planned a monthlong reading incentive program featuring dinosaurs for June. Edelman Fossil Park gave six day passes to use as prizes.
- April Madgey has assumed social media/marketing tasks.
- Audit documents turned over to Ball, Buckley, & Seher on Monday, April 20, 2026.
- State now requires two hours training per year for library trustees. Linda Helmbrecht completed one hour online.
- Anne has updated the Board meeting announcements to comply with new State Library advertising requirements for Legal Notices. We have advertised the link to the home page Legal Notices tab on the library website (https://www.wenonahlibrary.com/legal-notice.html), in The Sentinal of Gloucester County twice per month, and on the NJ Department of State legal notices link (https://www.nj.gov/state/statewide-legal-notices-list.shtml).
- Friends of Wenonah Library book sale on April 25th and 26th was the best ever. Location moved to the Train Station due to forecast of rain. Many volunteers supported the sale. Niki Odenbrett reported the final total of $1260.00 was deposited to their account. Items left were picked up by BookDrop. Saturday was the most profitable day and F.O.W.L. can now receive payments via Venmo.
- Irrigation system startup was on April 29, 2026.
- Applications for the Tischler Memorial Grant Program awarded by New Jersey State Library open 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.

Board of Trustees Business

- Cynthia Mullens has offered a donation to fund something in memory of her husband John. Action pending.
- The Board reviewed first quarter spending.
- The Board discussed Action Plans supporting the Strategic Plan.

Friends of Wenonah Library

- During May, F.O.W.L. is collecting food & other essentials for veterans in the library vestibule to support "Operation Care Package."
- F.O.W.L. has invited four local authors for "Night with an Author" events. Vinny Malfitano and Sam Carchidi have have accepted. Vinny is scheduled for May 29, 2026 and Sam for June 5, 2026 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm at the Train Station/Community Center. Nick "Nor'easter" Pittman has accepted; date pending. Awaiting response from Bryon MacWilliams.
- Members discuss plans for future events at each meeting (Escape Rooms, Teddy Bear Picnic, scavenger hunts, etc.)
- Niki Odenbrett investigating purchase and planting of orange azalea shrub to go with fire hydrant.
- Oral history project pending.

L. Helmbrecht adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm. (Motion by S. Mayer/Seconded by D. Cline/All in favor.)

Next Meeting: June 3, 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.