



Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting

Date: 08/20/2026

Location: HAL Community Room

Trustees Attending in person:

Gary Sheffer (President), Jim Kelly (Secretary), Michael Grisham (Treasurer), Aaron Able, Jessica Almeleh-Frazer, Miranda Barry, Sean Gilleran, Kellen Henry, Sharon Javna, Katie Konigsberg, Jared Muehlbauer, Kylah Perez, Kelley Robinson, Heather Thiry, Jill Turner.

Excused: Dani French, Carol Pledger

Staff Attending: Emily Chameides (Director)

Others Attending: Jean Warshaw (Board Advisor)

The meeting was called to order by Gary Sheffer at 06:00 pm. He welcomed trustees and guests.

A motion to approve the July minutes was made by Michael Grisham and seconded by Aaron Able. The vote to approve minutes was unanimous.

Reports

President's Report: Gary Sheffer

Gary noted a reminder that we have required yearly Trustee education to complete. Gary and the Board discussed Bard's ownership of the Armory.

Treasurer's Report: Michael Grisham

Through June, we collected 80% of our annual budgeted operating income and spent 35% of our budgeted operating expenses. Total receipts were \$75,296 for the month. Total expenses were \$80,733 for the month. Notable in Income for the month: in Restricted Grants, \$30,000 from The Home for the Aged for programs, resources, and services for seniors, \$12,000 from The Dyson Foundation for fundraising consultancy, \$8,500 from Rheinstrom Hill Community for History Room exhibit, \$8,500 from Children's Foundation for programs, resources, and services for children. Notable in Expenses for the month: in Utilities, \$6,699 this month to National Grid for various months.

Through July, we collected 82% of our annual budgeted operating income and spent 49% of our budgeted operating expenses. Total receipts were \$19,357 for the month. Total expenses were \$64,962 for the month. Notable in Income for the month: in Annual Benefit, \$12,250 in tickets and sponsorship. Notable in Expenses for the month: in Utilities, \$0 this month to National Grid.

A motion was made to approve the July Treasurer's Report by Sharon Javna and seconded by Jill Turner. The vote to approve the report was unanimous.

A motion was made to approve the Profit & Loss Detail for June by Jim Kelly and seconded by Sean

Gilleran. The vote to approve the Profit & Loss Detail was unanimous.

A motion was made to approve the August Treasurer's Report by Jared Muehlbauer and seconded by Kylah Perez. The vote to approve the report was unanimous.

A motion was made to approve the Profit & Loss Detail for July by Kelley Robinson and seconded by Aaron Able. The vote to approve the Profit & Loss Detail was unanimous.

Director's Report: Emily Chameides

Emily noted that it has been a busy summer with increase in visits, website visits, materials borrowing, and well-attended programs. Emily noted staff scheduling updates for the upcoming month.

Board Development Committee: Sean Gilleran

Sean reminded the board that we have one open board seat and the board discussed board development strategy and practices.

History Room Committee: Gary Sheffer

Gary noted that on Sunday, September 13 at 11AM, History Room members will give a walking tour starting at Promenade Hill. He also shared the Historic Walking Tour booklet that the History Room team produced. Gary described grants that the History Room has received and their purposes and discussed that the Jonas exhibit (dinosaur sculptures) will open with a reception Thursday, January 7. Gary noted that he could use assistance with the Jonas exhibit preparation and to please reach out to him.

Long Range Plan Committee: Kellen Henry

Kellen shared updates about the status of our turning outwards initiative with in-person and digital survey community outreach. Kellen noted a goal of setting the long term plan for the next 5 year plan by the end of the year and that we have groups set to speak with at the end of the month.

Gala Committee: Jessica Almeleh-Frazer

Jessica shared updates about the upcoming Gala event including the venue details, scheduled order of event, photography and video, booklet plans, and more.

Fundraising Committee: Miranda Barry

Miranda noted Kelley's work on our CRM and fundraising data and a potential informational meeting on how to leverage our tools and data with more board members. Miranda noted potential event ideas and ways to continue to recognize, appreciate, and strengthen our relationship with donors.

Ghostly Gallop Committee: Kylah Perez

Kylah noted restored access to and utilization of the Gallop instagram account, that we ordered hats for the event, are in communication with the Hudson Mile event team, and have applied to sponsors for the event.

Programming Committee: Kelley Robinson

Kelley highlighted the Music in the Stacks event with various musical acts and that it could benefit from volunteer support on Sunday, September 27. Kelley thanked everyone on the board who volunteered at events this summer.

Advocacy: Jared Muehlbauer

Jared noted that the FCC is proposing to reduce funding to the E-Rate program that supports low cost broadband internet for many libraries across the country and that we can file a comment and call local representatives in

response to the proposed FCC rule.

Friends of the Hudson Area Library: Jessica Almehel-Frazer

Jessica noted the Friends will have a September 18-20 Book Sale and are especially looking for books in large print and fiction, sports, and local interest books. Small, individually wrapped baked goods are preferred if you would like to donate baked goods in advance of the sale.

414 Initiative: Gary Sheffer

Gary noted that both 414 initiative petitions with signatures were approved in Greenport and Hudson to be on the ballot and thanked Aaron and Michael for their work in obtaining signatures and submitting petitions. Aaron will lead the 414 initiative with a planned coordination and planning meeting

Public comment N/A

Motion to adjourn was made at 07:07 pm by Kelley Robinson and seconded by Miranda Barry. The vote to adjourn was passed unanimously.

Jim Kelly, 08/20/26

Recording Secretary

Date of approval