

## Whitehall Public Library Board Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2026

Called to order in the Café at 7:02 pm.

Present: Meg O'Brien, Tracy Brandtner, Melissa Jones, Barb Gjerstad, Anthony DiMinico (Library Director), Rich Kirsch (Council Representative)

Absent: Liz Tuttle, Allie Brooks

- Introduction of Guests/Visitors
  - No guests /visitors were present.
- Public Input
  - N/A
- Approval of Agenda – unanimously passed
- Minutes of Last Meeting (December 2025) – unanimously passed
- Financial Reports (December 2025; General update) – unanimously passed
- Bill List (December 2025)- unanimously passed
- Director's Report (December 2025)- unanimously passed
- Highlights:
  - Holiday activities were popular. Holiday sing a long, holiday crafts for adults and kids, holiday movies.
  - Free little food library- making an impact on the community. Shelves are repeatedly being filled. The community has been amazing in replenishing the supply. Positive results and interactions. The food library will remain as long as it is needed and supported.
  - Anthony and Quinn were interviewed for a PTL segment on KDKA. The community reaction has been positive.
  - 1100 attendees for the month of December for children's programs.
  - 300 attendees for the month of December for adult programs. Looking to increase off site attendance for adult programming.
  - Christmas at Sea presentation. Local residents who attended the Hallmark Christmas a Sea Cruise presented about their experience on the Hallmark Channel program. An article regarding the program was featured in the South Hills Messenger.
  - Social media presence is increasing each month.
  - Pamphlets of upcoming events are available in checked out books and at the desk. Response has been positive.

- Old Business
  - Committee Updates
    - Nominating Committee
      - Currently scheduling interviews with the potential candidates for the open board position. Hoping to interview in late January.
    - Fundraising Committee
      - No new report.
    - Budget/Financial Committee
      - No new report.
    - Strategic Planning
      - Currently drafting the strategic plan.
      - The committee will meet at the end of the month to continue working.
- New Business
  - 2026 Board Code of Ethics
    - Board members signed for 2026.
  - 2026 Council Meetings Sign ups
    - Board members signed up to attend council meetings for the year.
  - Discussion: Thank You to Barbara Duff
    - Friends and the library have both purchased a leaf for the donor wall to thank her for her service.
  - Discussion: Term Limits
    - Move to next month for more discussion.
  - Discussion: 2026 Goals
    - Expanding programming to include intergenerational programs.
    - Look at revamping programs and bring new opportunities to increase attendance.
    - Involve community organizations in programming.
    - Develop more cohesion between library employees, library board, and the Friends of the Library organization.
- Announcements
  - Next Board Meeting: February 11, 2026, 7 pm
  - Whitehall Borough Council Meeting: January 21, 2026, 7 pm
- Meeting Adjourned: 7:58 pm

