

**Whitehall Public Library**  
**Board Meeting Agenda**  
**March 11, 2026**  
**General Session: 7:00 PM**

**Whitehall Second Chapter Café**

Liz calls the meeting to order at 6:59pm

In attendance: Melissa, Deanna, Anthony, Liz, Meg, Allie, Barb  
Borough Council rep Rich Kirsch

- Introduction of Guests/Visitors: Mary Rose Chasler
- Public Input: Mary Rose wanted to address the changes with the Friends of the WPL. As current secretary Mary Rose will try to attend the Trustee meetings during transitional years. Barbara Duff will continue on for Spring 26 fundraising campaign.
  
- Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved
- Minutes of Last Meeting (February 2026): minutes approved
- Financial Reports (February 2026): no amendments, notes or observations from Anthony. February financial reports approved.
- Bill List (February 2026): bill list approved
- Director's Report (February 2026): Anthony notes that despite the water issues in Children's, the library continued to serve the community and garner positive feedback. Highlighted grant awarded to the Children's library as well as upcoming multi-generational programming nights. Adult programming still working to determine timing and topics for max turnout for events, though attendance numbers are solid. Patty has been working in capacity as a reference librarian with one-on-one assistance and building strong rapport with patrons. While the Children's Library was closed, many guardians and parents noted that the WPL Children's section was their child's favorite in the area. Anthony has rotated onto the ACLA Shared Oversight Committee for Large Libraries. Status of South Hills Square book club hasn't been clarified; coordinator and residents haven't been responding to communication about facilitating further reading selections or meetings.
- Motion to approve an amended Director's Report; total value, expenditure costs and return on investments (updated as of 3/11/2026 at 4pm.
- Motion carried: Director's Report with amended values approved

**Old Business**

- Children's Library Update: the leak in the Children's Library has been temporarily fixed and the area has reopened. Asbestos test was negative; measures have been taken to prevent mold. There needs to be further investigation into the roof as well as external

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pipe that caused the situation, but this will wait until Spring. The borough will take lead on these next steps.

- **Committee Updates:**

Strategic Planning: wrapping up final draft. Christy still serves on this committee and is formatting it into Canva. Tentatively it will be presented at the April Board Meeting.

Nominating Committee: currently inactive

Community Engagement Sub-Committee: Meets bi-annually. First meeting held in December. The committee is looking to hold the June meeting in a public forum with advertising to drive attendance prior to the meeting.

Fundraising Committee: Christy was the chair, the committee hasn't met recently

\*Committee members should touch base with the Friends ahead of the Spring fundraising drive. Maryrose notes that the letters should be ready by March and ready for personalization by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Budget Committee: not in season, no updates

PR Committee: no recent issues to address, no updates

Strategic Planning Committee: Chair, Liz, Barb, Tracy, Allie and Christy

Nominating Committee: Melissa, chair. Tracy, Liz

PR Committee: Allie, chair. Liz, Barb

Community Engagement Sub Committee: Liz, chair. Deanna, Tracy, Allie

Fundraising Committee: Melissa, chair. Meg, Deanna

Budget Committee: Chair, Meg, Liz

**New Business**

- Welcome New Board Member – Deanna Gray

Deanna will be serving out the remainder of Christy's term and then will stay on for her own term.

- Libraries and ICE: ACLA libraries have been discussing this topic heavily. ACLA has issued a set of example instructions for policies regarding ICE. Anthony has touched base with Whitehall Police Chief to share ACLA documents. ACLA solicitor has written up a policy that libraries can adopt with their own modifications, outlining best practices and supports. WPL's goal is to ensure that no team members or community members are put at risk. At present, should an individual enter the Library claiming to be affiliated with ICE, library staff should contact the Whitehall Police Dispatch, and an officer will be sent to investigate the situation and advise. The Board will see a copy of ACLA guidelines

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before implementation as either policy or best practice. (Policy requires board action, best practice would be under the oversight and implementation of the Director).

- America250 Events: Council approved the Mayoral committee for borough celebrations of America's 250. Anthony is chairing that committee and also serving on the subcommittee. Library is collaborating with the Historical Society as well as planning events with various subject librarians. Focus on fostering a sense of community anchored in the history of our area.
- Whitehall Reads: *History Matters* as the selected text for this summer. Potential collaboration with the History Center. Woodville Plantation as possible lead for presentations with the event.
- Yearly Report Document: pamphlet based off of a template circulated in 2018 (had been on website until recently). Version will be posted on website, provided to Chamber of Commerce. Document gives a sense of not just lending, but also community impact.
- Library mixer: Organize an event for Staff, Board and friends of the WPL to meet one another in a social setting. The mixer would be held during National Library Week, April 19<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> in the evening. Proposed evening, Wednesday April 22<sup>nd</sup> in the Library.
- Make a note for the April meeting to discuss which Board members will bring items like food, drinks, paper products etc.

**Announcements**

Next Board Meeting: April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026: 7:00pm (Melissa needs a Zoom link)

Whitehall Borough Council Meeting: March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 7:00pm (Meg will serve as rep)

**Meeting adjourned at 8:24pm**