

POWERS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MONTHLY MEETING

Meeting Minutes November 18, 2025

	Status		Status		Status
(22) Mary Owen (MO)	Present	(19) Anna Krieger (AK)	Present	(23) Jerry Germano-Yaw (JG)	Present
(23) Jessica Hess (JH)	Present	(16) Bonnie Thomas (BT)	Present	(24) Scott Powers (SP)	Present
(24) Rachel McNabb (RM)	Present	(24) Nik Magill (NM)	Present	(25) Kim Miller (KM)	Present
		Lori Cochran (LC)	Present		

November meeting of the POWERS LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES called to order at 5:30 PM by MO.

October minutes / November agenda: approved without changes.

Kathy Hovis of Friends of Powers Library, Inc.; no other members of the public present.

Treasurer's Report: AK – statements from Cahill, Knobel & Assoc. sent out by email; ML funds, interest-bearing account: 10/31/2025 - \$151,908.03, 9/30 - \$161,341.12; managed fund: 10/31/2025 - \$667,832.77, 9/30 - \$669,382.02; Groton Bank balance 11/18/2025: \$25,975.36.

Old Business

- *NY Forward Grant Update* – LC trying to keep on top of grant, library being non-profit makes the process a little different than other businesses, NYS has to approve vendors for the work.
- *Board Member applicants* – MO Applicant Marcia Clark invited to December board meeting.

New Business

- *Director's Report:* LC Written report for October (attached) also sent out by email; link for NYS Sexual Harassment training will be sent out for completion before the end of the year; Christmas in Moravia – 12/6 – Mrs. Claus will be here to read stories, FOPL serving milk & cookies, book drawing and wreath raffle drawing that day; Boy Scouts donated food to the little food pantry; new “book buddy” program upcoming for K-6 grades, if successful – may repeat in spring; \$3820 so far from annual campaign; fewer holiday closures for 2026, weather closures will still rely on school closures, but will start with an opening delay until noon, and then situation will be further evaluated.
- *Friends of Powers Library, Inc. Update (JH attended meeting):* Kathy Hovis in attendance; Decorated wreath raffle ongoing until December 6, flyers/advertising discussed; possible 2026 events: book sale, line dance; AK to attend December meeting.
- *Budget prep meeting - Finance Committee:* LC meeting with Colin Cahill on November 19th.

- *Committee Reports*
 - *Building & Grounds* MO/SP/JH on committee: annual inspections for elevator & fire alarms – completed.
 - *Finance* AK/JG/RM/KM on committee: – No additional report.
 - *Fundraising & Events* JH/JG on committee: JH – Annual Campaign letters have been sent and money is coming in, statistics & tracking to be updated as needed.
 - *Personnel* AK/MO/SP/NM on committee: Close to completing policy/procedure on PTO.
 - *Services* BT/MO/KM on committee:
 - *Policies for review/approval:* BT no policies ready at this time; meeting held November 14th, upcoming policies for December approval: Fiscal Policy & PTO; beginning to work on long-range plan.
 - *Technology* NM/MO/SP on committee: No report.
- *Nominating Committee for Annual posts:* MO ballots handed out for office of Board President voting; Kim Miller agreed to become the new Treasurer, and current holders of Vice-President & Secretary positions agreed to continue in respective offices for 2026.
- *Upcoming Training:*
 - Training: Gather & Grow 2025 virtual learning event on December 5, featuring tracks on Library Administration, Library Programming, and Advocacy & Access, organized by various library systems.
 - Reminder: Complete Sexual Harrassment Training by end of year.
- *Misc:* Staff & FOPL appreciation planned for after January meetings; KM mentioned offering the old book drop to the food pantry for drop-off container (possible that they already have a solution); JH spoke of meal kits at the food pantry – food ingredients and recipe all in one bag, food pantry expanding on this idea; JH asked about book raffles being extended throughout the year; JH reported on insurance rates going up in 2026 about 10%.

Executive Session – Personnel

MO made the motion to go into executive session at 6:20, NM seconded – approved.

NM made the motion to exit executive session at 7:03, KM seconded – all approved.

Next Meeting: December 16, 2025, 5:30 PM

Adjournment: 7:03 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Bonnie Thomas

Powers Library Director's Report
For
October 2025

Highlights for October:

- Meeting spaces were used by: CAP/Health Navigator, Fiber Arts Club, Book Club, and Patrons
- Fire Alarm Inspection and Lift maintenance and inspection
- Story Hour, Toddler Time, and Lego Club returned for the season, both run through March.
- Cayuga-Owasco Lakes Historical Society held their monthly meeting and program "Spiritualism with Joyce Smith. 21 attendees.
- Some elementary school classes toured the library October 1st.

Personnel/Vendors:

- Staff meeting scheduled for November 17th. Items to be discussed: Weather closures, Scheduled closures for 2026, upcoming events. Sexual Harassment Training.

Data:

- New patrons October 2025: 9 October 2024: 7
- Circulation: October 2025: 1574 items October 2024: 1611 items (eContent excluded)
- Usage of our computers in addition to our Wi-Fi, faxing and copying has increased.

Grants/Other Funding:

- NY Forward progressing and updating information in the state system (ongoing)
- Received \$3,820.00 thus far, from library Annual Campaign.

Events/Upcoming:

- Applying for grants ongoing
- Increasing Partnerships -is essential (Cayuga Libraries & FLLS will share resources and ideas with each other) and partnering within our community.
- December 6th Christmas in Moravia: Mrs. Claus will be on hand to read stories and the Friends of Powers Library will be providing cookies and milk.
- Taxy Levy funds: should be receiving in December, or early January.
- December 13th - 30 children will have the opportunity to "Build-A-Book-Buddy" Children will stuff a bear, design a tshirt for their buddy, make a promise to read to their book buddy. (if this program is successful, we will do another in late spring)
- Consideration for starting a Chess Club: Club would meet 1st Monday of the month.