Goshen Public Library and Historical Society Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting of September 14, 2026

I. Call to order

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Goshen Public Library and Historical Society (GPLHS) was called to order by President Emily Collado at 7:00 PM on September 14, 2026.

Attendance:

Board members present: Emily Collado, Tina Fortugno, Heather LaBruna, Julie Markey (entered at 7:14 PM), Alison Newman, Michael Panzer (entered at 7:32 PM), and Lynn Tabbott. Also in attendance: Library Director Rose Chiocchi, Clerk of the Board Meghan Boroden and Treasurer Linda Hannigan.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Review and Approve Agenda

[Action item] RESOLVED that the Board approve the Agenda as amended.

*Addition of Goshen Living magazine proposal and Bicycle Checkout Agreement & Rules and Waiver & Release under New Business.

Motion, Trustee Fortugno. Seconded by, Trustee LaBruna. (Approved 5-0-0)

IV. Privilege of the floor – None.

V. Approval of the Minutes.

a. [Action item] RESOLVED that the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on August 10, 2026 as presented.

Motion, Trustee Tabbott. Seconded by, Trustee Newman. (Approved 5-0-0)

VI. Personnel – None.

VII. Finances

a. Library Treasurer Review of Finances

Library Treasurer Linda Hannigan spoke to the Board about the state of the Library's finances focusing on two areas: Draft Financial Statements and the first two months of the current fiscal year. Hannigan highlighted that the Library presently has less cash on hand than in 2025 because of large expenditures in the following areas in the past fiscal year: the payment of arrears out of the State Retirement budget line,

increased heath insurance benefits and building expenses. Hannigan noted that while the salaries and wages budget line was greater in the 2025-2026 fiscal year, this is due to the former interim director's services being paid out of a Contract budget line in 2024-2025. Hannigan also noted that $50,000 was utilized from the Library's fund balance for the new fiscal year. For the current fiscal year 2026-2027 the Library is awaiting the first payment of the tax levy no later than October 15th. The increased RCLS IT expenses was noted, but Library realizes savings in this agreement rather than hiring an in-house IT staff member who would require a large salary and health benefits. Looking forward, Director Chiocchi foresees expenses related to the negotiation of a second collective bargaining agreement to be less, as a template is now in place. Hannigan noted that there is a good partnership between Chiocchi and the Library's bookkeeper and thanked the Board for her continued role as treasurer.

b. [Action item] RESOLVED that the Board approve the August 2026 Financial Report.
Motion, Trustee Tabbott. Seconded by, Trustee Fortugno. (Approved 6-0-0)

c. August 2026 Warrant Schedule to be available at October meeting.

d. [Action item] RESOLVED that the Board approve the removal of William Troy and Bernard Marone as check signers from the Library's account with Orange Bank & Trust Company.
Motion, Trustee Markey. Seconded by, Trustee LaBruna. (Approved 6-0-0)

e. [Action item] RESOLVED that the Board add Rose Chiocchi as a check signer for the Library's account at Orange Bank & Trust Company.
Motion, Trustee Newman. Seconded by, Trustee Fortugno. (Approved 6-0-0)

VIII. Director's Report – In her report, Director Chiocchi noted increases in all areas: circulation of materials, use of space, reference inquiries and overall visits year over year. Despite the closure of the Library on Sundays in the summer, there was not a drop in patron use. Chiocchi explained that the circulation staff members are presently preparing approximately 200 new library cards for first graders in the Goshen Central School District, a time consuming initiative.

Chiocchi highlighted the work of several staff members and their departments. She praised the collection development and new initiatives set forth by Adult Services Librarian Ruth Mallard who is preparing to unveil a Book-a-Bike program in partnership with Orange County Snowboard, Ski & Bike, which will allow patrons to borrow a bicycle from the Library. Two birding backpacks, provided by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation I Bird NY initiative, are also now available for patrons to borrow.

Chiocchi complimented the marketing and communications skills of summer intern Jasmine Fernandez whose contributions promoted the Library's summer programs.

Summer Reading Program statistics revealed 326 youth participated with 150 attending the end of summer reading party.

Looking forward the Library staff is preparing for GoCon 2026 and autumn programs beginning at the end of September.

In building and grounds news, the Village of Goshen Department of Public Works notified the Library of a water leak. The source of the leak is in the process of being identified.

Director Chiocchi continues to engage with RCLS; meet with department heads and staff members; and participate in training on issues and programs impacting libraries. All staff members have completed the state-mandated annual sexual harassment training.

IX. Committee Reports

a. Standing Committees

i. Physical Resources Committee – None.

ii. Community Resources Committee – None.

iii. Human Resources Committee – None.

iv. Sunshine Committee – None.

b. Ad-hoc Committees

Historical Society Committee – The Battle of Minisink monument will be cleaned by Historian Ed Connor and moved by Mark Gargiulo of Allegro Landscaping. The journal will be headed to the printer. Discussion has begun on article ideas for a third edition.

X. Reports from Partner Groups

a. Friends of the GPL&HS is resuming monthly meetings following a summer break. Ed Connor was the first speaker, discussing Goshen estates and homes.

b. Junior Friends – A large television screen for the Pomares Community Room will be purchased with remaining funds raised by the Junior Friends.

XI. Old Business

a. [Action item] RESOLVED that the Board ratify the Tax Certiorari Agreement between the Goshen Public Library & Historical Society and Goshen Central School District.

Motion, Trustee Tabbott. Seconded by, Trustee LaBruna. (Approved 7-0-0)

XII. New Business

a. [Action item] RESOLVED that the Board approve the 2027 RCLS budget.

Motion, Trustee Panzer. Seconded by, Trustee Newman. (Approved 7-0-0)

b. Goshen Living Magazine.

Editor of Goshen Living Magazine has proposed featuring the Library in an upcoming issue of the publication.

c. Bicycle Checkout Agreement & Rules and Waiver & Release

[Action item] RESOLVED that the Board approve the Bicycle Checkout Agreement & Rules and Waiver & Release as amended.

Motion, Trustee Fortugno. Seconded by, Trustee Panzer. (Approved 7-0-0)

XIII. Privilege of the Floor – Staff member Norma Fives spoke about overdue fees and length of time patrons could borrow bicycles from the Library.

XIV. Executive Session

[Action item] RESOLVED that the Board enter Executive Session at 8:15 PM to discuss the employment history of particular individuals.

Motion, Trustee Fortugno. Seconded by, Trustee Markey. (Approved 7-0-0)

No action was taken.

[Action item] RESOLVED that the Board exit Executive Session at 9:31 PM.

Motion, Trustee Markey. Seconded by, Trustee Fortugno. (Approved 7-0-0)

XV. Report of Continuing Education Credits – Trustees reported on classes they have participated in to fulfill the continuing education credits required by NYS law.

XVI. Adjournment

[Action item] RESOLVED that the Board adjourn at 9:33 PM.

Motion, Trustee LaBruna. Seconded by, Trustee Tabbott. (Approved 7-0-0)

Next Regular Meeting: Changed from October 8, 2026 to October 7, 2026 at 7 PM due to scheduling conflicts.

Submitted by: Meghan Boroden, Clerk of the Board