

Chili Public Library Board of Trustees
Approved Minutes for December 17, 2024

Chili Public Library Mission Statement

The Chili Public Library is the center of lifelong learning for our community, and a welcoming responsive place people come to for the discovery of new ideas, the joy of reading and the power of information.

Board of Trustees: Monique Rew-Bigelow (President), Lorraine Ahearn (Vice President), Sara Landes (Secretary), James Lechner (Memorial Fund Treasurer), Vinny Dallo, Brian Hart, Caitlin Lindenhovius, Aubrey Mowers, Robert Bones
Library Director: Jeff Baker
Town Liaison: Mary Sperr

Absent: None

Excused: Monique Rew-Bigelow, James Lechner, Vinny Dallo, Brian Hart

CPL Staff Present: Jennifer Lowden, Assistant Director

Meeting called to order @ 6:05pm by Vice President Ahearn

Additional Comments from Audience: None

Approval of agenda: Lori Ahearn asked for the approval of the agenda for December 17, 2024. Hearing no objections, the agenda was approved with unanimous consent.

Approval of minutes: Lori Ahearn asked for the approval of the Minutes of November 19, 2024. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved with unanimous consent.

Communications

- **Town Liaison:** The plans for the Chili Center Redevelopment Project (at the site of the former senior center) are still being reviewed.

Director's Report

(Please note: All documents to be discussed were electronically sent to the CPL Board prior to the meeting. Documents amended during the meeting were electronically sent to CPL Board members.

- **Friends of the CPL Board:** The Friends Board doesn't meet in December.
- **CPL Foundation:** The CPL Foundation Board doesn't meet in December.

Statistics:

	November 2024	November 2023	% of change
Circulation	20,644	15,228	36%
Library Visits	8,859	8,819	.4%
Reference Questions	1,081	1,121	-4%
Programs (in-house)	54	59	-8%
Program Attendance (in-house)	659	569	15%
Items Borrowed (holds)	1,045	935	12%
Items Loaned (holds)	1,312	1,539	-15%
Overdrive	3,410	3,156	8%
Hoopla Circulation	442	361	22%
Meeting/Study Room Use	181	192	-6%
Website Sessions	2,100	4,000	-48%
Website Pageviews	2,800	5,900	-53%
Sparklab Attendance	116	107	8%
	Dec 2023-Nov 2024	Dec 2022-Nov 2023	% of change
Circulation	233,717	200,672	16%
Library Visits	117,166	112,676	4%
Reference Questions	13,530	13,517	.1%
Programs	718	682	5%
Program Attendance	11,392	10,032	14%
Overdrive	42,157	40,534	4%
Hoopla Circulation	5,101	4,019	27%

* May 2024 – Automatic Renewals Began

Virtual Programming October 2024

	Sessions	Participants
Adult Programs	1	35

- CPL-on-the Go!:** The Chili Community Tree Lighting and Craft Show marked the joyous beginning of the holiday season! Mrs. Claus delighted children with enchanting stories, and thanks to the generous support from the Friends of the Chili Public Library, we distributed over 115 children's books to enthusiastic young readers.

- **New Little Free Library at Widener Park** – The Library promotes literacy and encourages the joy of reading. To that end the Library agreed to be the beneficiary of Boy Scout Will Hart’s Eagle Scout project to build a Little Free Library at Widener Park. A Little Free Library builds community, inspires readers, and expands book access. The books are free to residents to take and replace, and the Friends of the Chili Public Library have agreed to make sure it is always well stocked. One of the primary purposes of the Eagle Scout service project is for the Scout to learn leadership skills, or to improve or demonstrate leadership skills. Will Hart also built a second Little Free Library to be sold by the Friends to help raise funds for the Library. Three Town of Chili parks now have a Little Free Library each built by a Boy Scout. They are Union Station Park, Davis Park, and now Widener Park.



New Items:

- **Approval Legislative Initiative Funding in the Amount of \$35,000:**
Assemblyperson Harry Bronson has secured Legislative Initiative Funding for the Chili Public Library in the amount of \$35,000. This funding will be used to replace outdated equipment, acquire new equipment for the Spark Lab, and acquire additional needed furniture.

Whereas the Monroe County Library System has received the Legislative Initiative Funding of \$35,000 for the Chili Public Library.

Therefore, the Monroe County Library System shall pay \$35,000 to the Chili Public Library. **Action Item:** Approve the Legislative Initiative Funding in the Amount of \$35,000.

Bert Bones made a motion to approve the Acceptance of the Legislative Initiative Funding in the amount of \$35,000. 2nd by **Aubrey Mowers**. In favor: 5; Opposed: 0; Abstained: 0.

MCLS Items

- None to Report

Meetings:

- Member Library Directors Council Meeting – 11/21/24
- RRLC D&O Insurance Webinar – 11/22/24
- Gates Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament Committee – 11/27/24
- Gates Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting – 12/3/24
- Gates Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting – 12/3/24
- MCLS Directors Council Meeting – 12/4/24
- Full Staff Meeting – 12/6/24
- Trustee Handbook Club Webinar – 12/6/24
- Town of Chili Community Tree Lighting Event – 12/6/24
- Library, Recreation Department, Senior Center Meeting – 12/10/24
- Gates Chili Chamber of Commerce Holiday Luncheon and Annual Meeting – 12/10/24

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Committees:

Trustee Nomination Committee: The Trustee Nominating Committee presented the proposed slate of Chili Library Board Officers for 2025 as follows:

President: Monique Rew-Bigelow

Vice President: Lori Ahearn

Secretary: Aubrey Mowers

The Trustee Nomination Committee put forth a motion forward to approve the proposed 2025 slate of Officers as presented.

Lori Ahearn asked for the approval of the proposed 2025 slate of Officers as presented. Hearing no objections, the 2025 slate of Officers was approved with unanimous consent.

Review of the CPL Budget Spreadsheet and Memorial Fund Spreadsheet: Budget items remain largely on target with one month left in the year.

Approval Items:

- Approval of Library Fund Abstract amount of \$10,452.12
- Approval of Memorial Fund Expenditures: \$410.70

Lori Ahearn asked for the approval of the Library Fund Abstract amount of \$10,452.12 and the Memorial Fund Expenditures amount of \$410.70. **Hearing no objections**, approved with unanimous consent.

Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned @ 6:45pm.

Next meeting date/time: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 @ 6pm in the Chili Public Library Ireland Room.