

STARR LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

68 W. Market Street
Rhinebeck, Ny 12572

NOTICE OF MEETING
Thursday, September 24, 2026, 5:30 PM

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Review of Agenda
2. Public Comment Period
3. Secretary's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Claims and Warrants
6. Director's Report
7. Friends Report
8. Standing Committee Reports and Anticipated Action Items
9. Ad Hoc Committee Reports
10. Correspondence
11. Old Business
 - a. Annual training requirements
12. New Business
 - a. 2027 Committee preferences
13. Public Comments
14. Executive Session (if needed)
15. Adjournment

Next Meeting Date: October 22, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

[Link to Public Comment and Meeting Conduct Policy](#)

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

STARR LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

68 W. Market Street
Rhinebeck, NY 12572

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 27, 2026, 5:30 P.M.

Trustees Present: Jay Burgess, Tom Mendl, Al Ragucci, Jim Ruderman, Laura Selicaró, Andrew Schulkind, and Director Jaclyn Savolainen. Not in attendance were Laura Charles, Heather Dubuque, Erin Humbaugh, and Mimi Joh-Carnella. No representative attended on behalf of the Friends.

1. Call to Order and Review of Agenda: Andrew, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.
2. Public Comment Period: There were no comments.
3. Secretary's Report: Jay noted that there were no comments on the draft minutes previously distributed to the Trustees. A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
4. Treasurer's Report: Jim presented the Report for July. Financial information for the month was advanced to the Trustees. Jim reported that the financial results to date were showing slightly more income than expenses. He noted that recent fundraising by the Library raised a bit more than the funding gap caused when a voter-approved \$82,000 increase for the Library was not collected in the tax levy by the Town. Jim also updated the Trustees on balances in the Library's bank and investment accounts.
5. Claims and Warrants: Jim presented the items to the Board. A motion was made to approve the Claims and Warrants. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
6. Director's Report: Jaclyn provided the Report for July. The Report was sent to the Trustees prior to the meeting. Numerous upcoming programs were highlighted, including September 22 *Fire and Freedom: The American Revolution in New York—Author Talk with Thomas Wermuth*, September 26 and October 3 *Two-Part Nonviolent Communication Workshop with Gail McManus*, and October 1 in partnership with Upstate Films—*Fireside Chat with Former Harris & Clinton Senior Advisor Opal Vadhan*. Special mention was given to recent events, including the highly successful July 24-25 *Friends of Starr Library Book Sale* and July 18 *Roger Phillips Concerts: The Wanda Houston Project*. A recap was provided on the widely popular Summer Reading program. The initiative was made possible by collaborations with multiple area libraries and sponsoring businesses, as well Chambers of Commerce in Rhinebeck and Red Hook.

During a Buildings & Grounds update, Jaclyn reported significant improvements from new insulation and climate-control systems as well as landscaping work. She expressed gratitude for a recent Municipal Investment Grant of \$20,000 announced by the Office of Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino.

The Director reviewed library-use statistics for July, noting that the trend lines are showing a slight decline in borrowing of physical materials while use of digital items continues to rise sharply. A discussion ensued among the Trustees about the above topics and the Director's Report. All questions asked were appropriately answered.

7. Friends Report: No representative attended for the Friends.
8. Standing Committee Reports: The Standing Committees did not meet during July.
9. Ad Hoc Committee Reports: There were no updates to share.
10. Correspondence: Jaclyn shared a few kind thank you notes that came in through the Library's suggestions box.
11. Old Business:
 - a. Endowment Spending Policy Revision was given a second read. A motion was made to approve the Policy. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
 - b. Collection Development Policy Rewrite was given a second read. A motion was made to approve the Policy. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
 - c. Local Authors Materials Selection Policy was given a second read. A motion was made to approve the Policy. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
 - d. Public Comment and Meeting Conduct Policy was given a second read. A brief discussion took place, and all questions asked were appropriately answered. A motion was made to approve the Policy. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
 - e. Bylaws Revision was given a second read. A motion was made to approve the Bylaws. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
12. New Business
 - a. Mid Hudson Library System Free Direct Access Plan was given a read. A brief discussion took place, and all questions asked were appropriately answered. A motion was made to approve the Plan. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
 - b. Jaclyn reminded the Board that its September 24 meeting would be attended by several Trustees from the Mid Hudson Library System Board.

13. Public Comments: There were no comments.

14. Executive Session: There was no executive session.

15. Adjournment: There being no other business to conduct, a motion was made to adjourn.
The motion was seconded and unanimously approved at 6:55 p.m.

Next Meeting Date: September 24, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Starr Library

Budget vs. Actuals (Summary)

January - August, 2026

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Revenue			
4001 Local Public Funds	464,800.00	546,800.00	85.00 %
4002 MHLS Cash Grants	240.00	2,100.00	11.43 %
4005 Restricted Grants	55,478.38	35,000.00	158.51 %
4006 Unrestricted Grants & Donations	107,996.34	83,000.00	130.12 %
4007 Programs	4,913.98	5,000.00	98.28 %
4008 Library Charges	1,199.12	2,000.00	59.96 %
4009 Interest & Dividends	5,039.35	3,000.00	167.98 %
4010 Distributions from Endowment		45,000.00	
4011 Square Reconciliation	-78.87		
4500 Transfers In	0.00		
Total Revenue	\$639,588.30	\$721,900.00	88.60 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$639,588.30	\$721,900.00	88.60 %
Expenditures			
5001 Staff Expenses	303,190.15	490,469.00	61.82 %
5002 Collection Expenses	43,274.84	67,000.00	64.59 %
5004 Building & Equipment	62,878.76	99,530.00	63.18 %
5005 Miscellaneous	29,194.90	54,070.00	53.99 %
Total Expenditures	\$438,538.65	\$711,069.00	61.67 %
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$201,049.65	\$10,831.00	1,856.24 %
Other Revenue			
4500.11 NYS Legislature Technology Upgrade Grant	20,000.00		
4500.12 Thomas Trust Parking Lot Accessibility Grant	10,000.00		
4500.13 Frost Memorial Fund- HVAC	65,566.00		
Total Other Revenue	\$95,566.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Other Expenditures	\$66,825.00	\$0.00	0.00%
NET OTHER REVENUE	\$28,741.00	\$0.00	0.00%
NET REVENUE	\$229,790.65	\$10,831.00	2,121.60 %

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

September 24, 2026

UPCOMING CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

- **Saturday, September 19, 2026, 4:30pm** - [Roger Phillips Concert: The Brighton Beat](#)
- **Monday, September 21, 2:00pm** [Screening of *The Librarians* and discussion](#)
- **Tuesday, September 22nd, 6:30pm** - [Fire and Freedom: The American Revolution in New York - Author Talk with Thomas Wermuth](#)
- **Saturday, September 26th, 1-2pm** - [Outdoor Community Yoga Class](#) - Donation Drive for The Great Giveback
- **Wednesday, September 30th, 6:30pm** - [The Second Estate: How the Tax Code Made an American Aristocracy - Ray Madoff and Hillary Pennington in Conversation](#)
- **Thursday, October 1st, 5:30pm** at Upstate Films - [Fireside Chat with Former Harris & Clinton Senior Advisor Opal Vadhan](#)
- **Saturday, October 3rd, 10:30am-1:30pm** - [Nonviolent Communication Workshop with Gail McManus](#)

PATRON SERVICES

- **Battle of the Books** - We have a team of six 11 year-olds who have been meeting weekly since June to prepare for this Saturday's competition!
- **The Great Give Back 2026** - We are participating in a friendly competition between Dutchess and Ulster counties collecting for local food pantries through October 17. An outdoor Community Yoga Class will also be collecting non-perishable food donations on Sept. 26.
- **New displays:** Barbara Portman collage exhibit, back catalog of authors with popular new books, "What I'm excited about for school"



- Museum pass usage 2026 (compared to total 2025)
 - FDR = 16 (24)
 - Maritime = 9 (6)
 - Discovery = 10 (n/a)
 - Olana = 11 (16)
 - Aerodrome = 12 (12)
 - Opus 40 = 6 (10)
 - Storm King = 12 (22)
 - Wethersfield = 13 (5)
 - Empire Pass = 12 (8)
 - Mohonk = 11 (17)

BUILDING & GROUNDS

- We will be beginning work soon on the sidewalk improvements and relocation of two ADA parking spaces, funded by the Thomas Thompson Trust.
- Kenn cleaned the windows.

STAFF

- Last Sunday we had a staff day with CPR/AED/Narcan/Epipen training, and an off-site meeting at Rose Hill Farm.
- A new library assistant, Rachel, is filling in while Christine is on a personal leave.

FUNDING

- The Dutchess County Department of Planning and Development has approved our change of scope for the \$20,000 reimbursable matching grant so we can apply it to next year's installation of minisplit heat pumps rather than for the insulation work.
- The Friends approved \$500 more for the water cooler refills. They have given \$28,478 this year, sponsoring our Battle of the Books team, Summer Reading Program, large print books, museum passes, water, electronic materials, and new magazine spinner.
- We are applying for additional funding from the Thomas Thompson Trust to offset the increased costs of the sidewalk and parking lot improvements.

OTHER

- DCLA meeting in East Fishkill

TRUSTEE EVENTS

- MHLS Trustee Education Series: [Open Meetings Law & Roberts Rules](#) | In-Person | Thursday, October 1, 2026 | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM | Claverack Free Library
- MHLS Trustee Education Series: [Multi-Year Financial Planning](#) | In-Person | Monday, October 5, 2026 | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM | Town of Esopus Library

- MHLS [System Tour - Orientation](#) | In-Person | Tuesday, October 6, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM | MHLS Auditorium
- MHLS Trustee Education Series: [An Introduction to Capital Projects](#) | In-Person | Wednesday, October 7, 2026 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM | Clinton Community Library
- [NYLA Conference](#) | November 4-7 | Saratoga Springs

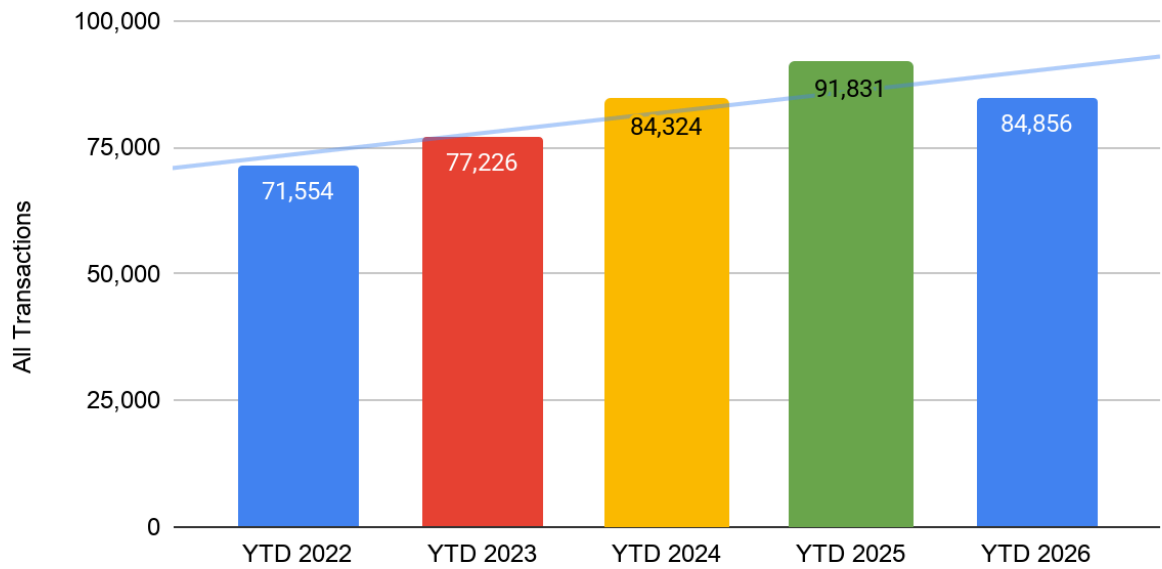
STATISTICS

Attendance	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
Adult & multi-age ongoing programs	826	685	642	1272	752
Children's/YA programs	304	199	357	735	389
Outside groups - reserved rooms	84	62	305	22	305
Total attendance*	1214	946	1304	2029	1185

*Total attendance will not equal the sum of all rows because special events include both children's and adult or multi-age events.

Total Circulation Transactions (Physical)

Through July 31, 2026



YTD Digital Borrowing

Through Aug 31, 2026

