

**AURORA FREE LIBRARY**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, May 21, 2026**

Facilitator: Dave Eckhardt, President, AFL Board of Trustees

Attending Trustees: Lars Peterson, Michele Belot, Mary Jo May (late arrival), Dennis Looney (Zoom),

Excused: Lori Knopp & Thea Miller

Staff: Sandy Groth, Library Director

**1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm by Board President, Dave Eckhardt.

**2. Consent Agenda Approval:** Dave motioned to approve the 4/23/26 Meeting Minutes and the 5/21/26 Meeting Agenda, and Lars seconded it. Approved 4-0-0 (Mary Jo had not arrived).

**3. Conflict of Interest:** None reported.

**4. Treasurer's Report:** Lori shared the current operating balance as \$43,227.46 and a CD reserve fund balance of \$111,889.84

**5. Director's Report:** Sandy said we are working to resolve a small issue with the NYS Annual Report. The online document review did not catch it originally since new software is being used. We received a Family Literacy Grant for \$490 for four additional Museum and Park passes: Seward House Museum, Rochester Museum and Science Center, The MOST, and The Museum of the Earth. These will be available by the end of June. We are gearing up for the Summer Reading Program. The Library Summer theme is "Unearth a Story." We are hosting a Prehistoric Clay Creature Show for the month of June to promote summer. Sarah Bullock will be an unpaid summer intern. She is working to complete her MLIS through SUNY Albany. Lastly, Dave E. has applied for "Bullet Aid" Preservation funding to our local State Assemblyman and State Senator.

## **6. Committee Reports:**

Morgan Opera House: Lars reported that on the 7th of June there will be a Seward Talk at 2 pm, and on August 8th the “No Promises” singing group will perform at 7:30 pm.

Preservation: Masonry work on the front step side walls is complete. The step treads still need to be sealed. The annual exterior cleaning of Library windows and steps was completed.

Book Lovers’ Ball: ‘Save the Date’ cards are out. The Annual BLB will be held Sunday, October 11th at the Inns of Aurora, 5-10 pm.

Long Range Service Plan: Dennis reported that the AFL interest survey went out into the community. This is made available in English and Spanish online and through paper copies at various public locations. We have received over 40 responses and will continue to make the survey available through the end of June.

Fundraising: The annual Plant Sale was held at the library on Saturday, May 9th. The Book Sale will once again be held July 24-26 during the Route 90 yard sale.

## **7. Old Business:**

- Sandy reminded the Trustees to complete their Sexual Harassment Training as well as the additional required 2 hours of Trustee training by the end of the year.
- Our 2026 Tax Levy was approved at the May 19th public vote at the SCCS District Office. The vote was 412 Yes, 166 No.
- Congressman John Mannion visited the Library for a Meet & Greet discussion on May 6th, which was well attended.

**8. New Business:** Aurorafest will be on Saturday, July 11th. The theme is “Once Upon a Time”. Jo offered her flatbed for the float.

**9. Adjourn Meeting:** Dave asked for a motion to adjourn. Lars motioned and Michelle seconded, Approved 5-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Our next Trustees Meeting will be on **June 18, 2026 at 5:30 pm.**