

**ANDES PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
JULY 8, 2026**

Present: Karen Bornarth, Susan Cole, Nancy Darling, Suzanne Gladstone, Diane Lockspeiser, Thomas Navin; Director, Carol Fontaine; Treasurer, Maggie Reinmann

Meeting was called to order at the Library by President Susan Cole at 3:00 p.m.

Susan asked for a vote to approve minutes of 5/13/26. Nancy made a motion and Karen seconded. **Motion to approve the minutes of 5/13/26 passed. (See attached)**

Director's Report:

Carol said stats were consistent, and that more people have been visiting the library.

She attended two 4CLS Directors' Meetings: Regulations from the Commissioner of Education has set minimum standards to which all public libraries must comply; needed additions to our website; every county has a public access law library.

Monday Mah Jongg now has 9 players. Tom asked who headed the group. Diane said that new members formerly played in Delhi, and found the Andes group online. They find this Mah Jongg group more friendly.

Nobody comes for Tuesday Rummikub. Diane mentioned that Rummikub players regularly meet at players' homes, will follow up with Alyssa.

Tammy has finalized the Hot Spot; APL charge is \$20 per month. Suzanne suggested a \$10 deposit and picture I.D. be required.

Staff meeting was held on June 26th.

Programs:

Summer reading program will consist of five sessions for children and two for adults. Carol expects around 20 children from CROP to attend the sessions. Adult sessions - Catskill geologists, Bob and Joanne Titus; cryptozoologist, Ken Gerhard.

Roshan Houshmand will conduct two painting workshops in August.

Thank you to Diane and sons for installing new bookshelves; and thank you to Susan, Dale and son for moving bookshelves upstairs. Masonite can now be ordered.

Weeding of adult nonfiction books is underway; discards will be placed on the porch.

Board of Trustees Meeting
July 8, 2026
Page 2

General Discussion:

Discussion took place about securing one of the bookshelves for safety reasons; Diane said a Mah Jongg member and desk volunteer, Alyssa, could recommend a contractor who could secure the shelf. Or perhaps Carol's husband could do it. Another suggestion was to put heavy books on the bottom to keep the shelf stable.

APL insurance has increased 15.57%, and Barbara Short, the library cleaner, remains at \$20 per hour. The library is cleaned once per week, and this will continue.

Grants: We received \$21,700 from the O'Connor Foundation for parking lot and front steps. We will get the proceeds as needed.

Susan asked Carol to contact the O'Connor Foundation and ask if we can use the Town's contractor instead of Weber Paving, which would cost less, and the Town owns the parking lot. We may not be allowed to substitute because Andes is a municipality.

Susan asked Carol to look for an apply for grants to reconfigure the upstairs. Susan said that the parking lot will be inaccessible next week due to work being done on the stream, and asked Carol to post the info on the website. Alternate parking is across the street at the mansion, which has been approved by Tina DeSanto.

Tom mentioned that the charging station is not working.

Carol asked if we wanted to participate in the state-sponsored "Great Give Back," which we did last year. Will be decided at the September meeting.

Suzanne made a motion and Tom seconded to approve the Director's Report. **Motion to approve Director's Report passed.**

Treasurer's Report:

Maggie asked about the insurance, and was told there has been a 15.57% increase.

Board of Trustees Meeting
July 8, 2026
Page 3

Maggie explained that funds from Savings are moved to Checking to pay bills. Tom asked about Copies and Faxes which were projected to be \$800, and as of July the amount is \$53.00. Susan explained that the upcoming budget meeting looks at the line-by-line items for the coming year and makes adjustments as needed.

The check for the gutters has been mailed.

The full amount of the grant will go into the Capital Account. We get one-half in the beginning and one-half at the end. Payouts from the grant will be made from the Capital Fund, keeping it separate from the General Fund.

APL paid \$1,000 for the gutters; Town will reimburse for the full amount at the end.

Tom asked Maggie if her email had been hacked, as he had received a non-library related email from her. She said yes.

Karen made a motion and Nancy seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report. **Motion to approve Treasurer's Report passed. (See attached)**

President's Report:

For future in-house fundraising events, Susan would like to see our thank yous and expressions of gratitude to include random pictures. Our bake sale/tea party was a big success, but we could have done more with our thank yous. We will have a disclaimer online about posting photos of children.

Derek is donating \$2,000 to cover boxwoods and remainder of gardening by Corin. He may need a gentle "nudge" to send the check. (Derek brought the check personally to the board meeting.)

Tom: Corin will move the blueberry shrubs. Susan: Corin is applying retardant to the milkweed. We cannot exceed \$1250.

Community day is 8/1. APL will be represented by Susan's decorated 4-seater. Tom/Gino can you carry the banner again? Susan and Nancy attended the CD meeting. The APL will provide water for dog show dogs and a receptacle for "poop" bags. This will be at 2:00 p.m. The theme for our float this year is "Flamingos." Float decorations and shirts are ready and available.

Board of Trustees Meeting
July 8, 2026
Page 4

Old Business:

Garden Tour: Joanne Warner dropped out. Karen said tickets will be sold online with Zeffi and at the library. People who purchase tickets online will have a map emailed to them the morning of the tour. Susan requested that pictures be taken on the tour to be posted on our website.

Board Members: Susan asked for a vote on two new board members: Lisa Eckley and Dennison Joyce. Diane made a motion and Karen seconded. Motion to approve these two new board members passed.

New board members will need to sign the oath and conflict of interest documents, and sign up for 4CLS Basic Training. Lisa has already signed up.

Deck Repairs: Contact Travis Balcom, Tab Builders, about repairing the deck. Tom mentioned that there would be advertising benefits if they agree to do it.

Friends of the Library: Carol stated that Laurie McIntosh looked into the procedures to start a new chapter and that it was too complicated for her to take on at this time.

New Business:

Budget: Date and time needs to be set to work on the budget. Maggie, Suzanne, Susan and Carol agreed to meet on Monday, July 20th, at 10:30 a.m.

Annual Fundraiser: Karen has prepared two letters which will be sent out, one to businesses and one to the general public. We will combine the two to thank people for their continued support.

Discussion was held regarding an annual library party, and it was decided not to hold it this year. Nancy stated that very few people came to the library last year to enjoy the free cider, donuts and live music, and that she didn't think the turnout warranted doing it again this year. Diane stated that in previous years the library offered various hot food and appetizers, and that those occasions were well-attended. However, the board decided to look at a harvest celebration with cider and donuts in the Fall. Further discussion at the next meeting. Karen will adjust the letters as needed.

Board of Trustees Meeting
July 8, 2026
Page 5

Susan asked if we should have the “thank you” event at the library in September. Nancy stated that very few people came to the library last year to enjoy the free cider, donuts and live music, and that she didn’t think the turnout warranted doing it again this year. Diane stated that in previous years the library offered various hot food and appetizers, and that those occasions were well-attended. However, the board decided to not move forward

YA attendance: Susan asked Carol to provide an estimate of the YA usage for purposes of distribution of funds from the grant.

Carol said the upstairs renovation would provide a place for patrons to work in private.

Nate the Great: Kids loved this local entertainer’s performance, encouraging reading and juggling fire sticks. Possible event for kids by APL. More information needed.

Tom mentioned the upstairs could be used for more than Young Adult patrons. We should engage the community for ideas and suggestions about what would serve their needs.

Diane suggested when the upstairs is completed, it could be used to hold craft classes for adults. She said that Mary Peterson, a local and lifetime costume designer, loved the hat-making contest, and perhaps would hold a class in the space upstairs as well.

Tom mentioned Jeff Ditchek, a potential volunteer, and suggested an outreach policy for him and others to volunteer at the APL.

Suzanne made a motion to adjourn, Tom seconded. **Motion to adjourn passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 4:16.

Next meeting Wednesday, September 9th, 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Darling
Recording Secretary

