

Minutes of the Inlet Public Library Board Meeting

Thursday, June 11, 2026

Members Present: Sue Beck, Jennifer Blakeman, Katie Chambers, Kim Egenhofer, Becky Hasemeier, Lynn Keough, JoAnn Meneilly, Jeanne Wilson, Library Director Joanne Kelly

Excused: Jean Bird, Mary Lou Reich

Guest Present: Karen Gorea

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by President Kim Egenhofer. The Board welcomed Karen Gorea, who is considering an appointment to the Board and attended the meeting as an observer.
2. Adoption of Agenda: The previously distributed agenda was approved on a motion by Sue, seconded by Katie.
3. Approval of May Meeting Minutes: The previously distributed minutes were approved on a motion by Katie, seconded by Jennifer.
4. Approval of Treasurer's Report: (copy attached)

For May: Disbursements were \$1,809.89. Receipts were \$1,373.74. The checking account balance as of May 31, 2026, was \$39,381.44. The Certificate of Deposit balance was \$25,981.22. The total of all funds as of May 31, 2026, was \$65,362.66.

The May report was approved on a motion by Jeanne, seconded by Kim.

Katie asked the Board to consider moving a portion of the checking account balance to a Certificate of Deposit (CD). After discussion, JoAnn moved that the Board authorize the Treasurer to invest twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) in a CD for a term not to exceed seven (7) months, unless Community Bank has a better rate/term/instrument offer, in which case the Treasurer is authorized to invest those funds in the best option available, seconded by Jeanne and approved.

5. Library Director's Report: Joanne distributed her report (copy attached) and reviewed each item.

Kudos to Joanne for her diligent work on the history walk project. The boards should be installed in Fern Park in the next two weeks.

Joanne reported that the 250th birthday committee had included a coloring contest sponsored by the library in the schedule of events for July 4th, despite the Board's decision at the May meeting not to participate in a contest. Joanne had received a packet of coloring sheets from the committee. After discussion, the Board decided to only offer one sheet, and the Board selected a sheet. Joanne will hand the sheet out as requested with directions to submit completed coloring to the Town Hall, where it will be judged by others. The library declines responsibility for judging the contest or offering prizes.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Inlet Area Community Task Force: Jennifer reported that the Banks Farm stand is now open at the Inlet School every Tuesday from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. In addition, Maple Farm has a stand in Eagle Bay starting at 8:00 am every Monday and Friday, and the Old Forge farmers' market begins on Friday, June 19 from 1:00 to 5:00 pm.

The gardens are ready, and the task force received a grant for fencing, which has been installed.

The task force is assisting the Town of Inlet in researching installation of a fast-charging station and participated in a land use seminar to keep up to date with potential requests for development of data centers.

- b. Grants Update: Jennifer reported that she is working on a grant application for the Adirondack League Club for funding to update furniture, books and puzzles, as suggested in the focus group for parents of young children. The submittal deadline is June 15.
- c. Strategic Planning: Jeanne distributed an updated report on the project status (copy attached), which included the input from the senior citizen focus group, as well as an outline for next steps once the focus group discussions are completed.
- d. Report from 250th Birthday Decorating Committee: Joanne reported that the committee (Joanne, Lynn and Mary Lou) met and selected supplies to decorate the library for the 250th birthday celebration. The order was placed and Joanne expects decorations to arrive on Friday (June 12). The committee will meet at 10:00 am on Sunday (June 14) to decorate, and Joanne asked Board members to help with the project if available. The committee also has a plan for updating the bulletin board for the celebration. Jennifer noted that Pinterest has ideas for bulletin boards.
- e. Annual Window Washing: Joanne reported that the window washing was completed on Tuesday (June 9).
- f. New Minimum Standards: Katie distributed a handout on the New York State Minimum Public Library Standards (copy attached). The library would need to comply with the standards by January 1, 2027. There are still many questions that need to be answered regarding which policy updates would be required of our library and whether any of our existing policies already comply with the new standards. Katie reported that there are a series of webinars over the coming months that will help clarify these questions.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Dusty Book Report: Kim stressed that this project is extremely overdue, and since our annual SALS assessment is based on the number of items in our collection, it is important to cull all items that have not been signed out in the recent past. It is also important to not allow our collection to get stale. Joanne noted that the used book room is full, with many new donations arriving, and there is currently no room to add the culled books to the room. Board members were encouraged to all pitch in to work on removing books from the used book room and deliver them to the Inlet drop-off center, and Joanne will focus on having staff spend time on culling books on the dusty book report. The Board also discussed the

search for additional library assistants, as well as increasing hours available for existing assistants as the budget allows.

- b. **Story Time:** Story Time is not currently happening. Jeanne noted that story time is an important program that brings children into the library at a young age, hopefully starting a lifelong love of libraries. She questioned the effectiveness of the past protocol of asking volunteers to conduct the story time, noting that the feedback from the parents of young children focus group indicated that the parents and children love our Library Director. It would be easier to schedule story time when Joanne has overlap with a library assistant, and Joanne would read to the children instead of relying on volunteers. Jeanne felt that it was important to get a regular weekly time slot for story time and run it reliably throughout the year. There may be weeks when there are no participants, in which case Joanne can use her time otherwise, but it should at least be an available weekly program. After discussion it was agreed that it was not necessary to over-complicate story time with a craft project. Joanne will check with assistants to select a day and time that will work for reliable double coverage.

OTHER:

Jennifer inquired whether the library would be open on Friday, June 19 (Juneteenth) since it is a federal holiday. Joanne stated that she would be open as she felt that if people are in town, it is important for the library to be open.

Jennifer asked whether meeting minute attachments (like the Director's Report) should be included on the library's website. Jeanne advised that complete hard copies of all minutes with attachments are available at the library, but that not all attachments are appropriate to put on the website. If anyone should want to review minutes attachments, they are available at the library. After discussion, the Board agreed not to change the current policy regarding minute attachments.

Joanne asked whether there was a plan to change the library hours this summer in response to feedback received during the focus group discussions. After discussion, the Board decided it would be premature to change hours at this time and will instead review this idea in the process of analyzing focus group feedback for the strategic plan.

Kudos to Jennifer for the floor puzzle and wooden puzzle she purchased for the library.

Sue thanked Jeanne for the work on the library's garden and planters.

Next Meeting will be Thursday, July 16, 2026, at 2:00 pm at the Inlet School (Note change of meeting location for July and August meetings!)

Meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm on a motion by Sue, seconded by Becky.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Wilson, Secretary