

**Fruitport District Library Board of Directors**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 18, 2026**

The meeting was called to order by President Anna Dudas at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Ruth Woodward, Bill Overkamp, Nan Riekse, Anna Dudas, Pat Walstra, Alison Anderson, and Teresa Folkmier.

Also, in attendance: Matt Lubbers-Moore and Donna Esch.

The agenda was approved as presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

New board members, Alison Anderson and Teresa Folkmier were introduced and welcomed and told the board a little about themselves.

**REPORTS**

**Maintenance Report:** No new problems. Trustee Woodward brought a heavy shovel to clear the built up ice from the steps at the employee entrance and Matt has maintained it.

**Library Report:** The Director reported that everything is running smoothly and that in spite of the horrible winter weather during the month of January, our numbers continue to grow. It is likely that we will top 20,000 visitors before the end of the fiscal year! Matt did ask that the board contact former trustee Dillon to pass off the “administrator” designation on Facebook to someone else. He is considered the moderator with limited access. Trustee Dudas will contact Rose Dillon.

Matt also reported that he has applied for a grant which would amount to about \$60,000. This would be used to pay for the rental of a storefront in the Lakes Mall which could be used for our yoga groups, line dancing etc. as well as an area for the Friends of the Library to set up their used book nook. He will let us know if/when this is received and will take board members with him to the Mall to determine the best place. He has already looked at a couple of empty stores. Cost would be approximately \$1,200 - \$1,500 per month. The mall also said the rent could possibly be lowered depending on the numbers of people we could bring into the mall.

**Secretary’s Report:** The January minutes were read by Trustee Woodward. Motion by Trustee Riekse and supported by Trustee Overkamp to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report:** A review of financial information was presented by Trustee Dudas. A motion was made by Trustee Woodward, supported by Trustee Riekse to approve payment of bills totaling \$5,184.89. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. It was reported that signatory changes have been made at Consumers Credit Union, but not at LMCU. Trustee Dudas will contact them to see who needs to be present to make the appropriate changes.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Discuss Land Meeting Progress: The board discussed some of the pros and cons for four properties currently under consideration for a new or renovated library. These include: The current location on Park St. in the Village, property on Quarterline Rd. which is owned by the Township, property on Mt. Garfield Rd which is for sale, and property on Farr Rd. owned by Dr. Steve Szatkowski. Trustee Walstra has drawn up a list of pros and cons which Trustee Dudas will forward to all board members. Trustee Walstra and Trustee Woodward still need to meet with Todd Dunham, Township supervisor to get more information regarding the property on Quarterline Rd. Board members will come to our March meeting prepared to share any additional ideas about each property. It was also agreed that we will need to hire an attorney as we move forward. Trustee Dudas will research our best choices to fill this need.

Current snow removal plan: For now, the Village will continue to plow the driveway and front walkway. The library staff will maintain the area around the entrance as best they can.

Letter to Village and Township regarding appointment of board member: A letter was sent to the Township and they provided us with a draft of their last minutes which formally appointed Teresa Folknier and Alison Anderson.

Library Liability Insurance Discussion: The Village has agreed to withdraw their request to pay the past liability insurance, but are in agreement that going forward it will become our responsibility. We will be allowed to remain on their plan and pay through them beginning in July 2026. This amount will need to be reflected in our new budget.

Maintenance Position Status: Trustee Walstra reported that none of the three parties she contacted were interested in this position. She will try to contact R.S.V.P. – an organization of retired people, to see if they might be interested. The director will also repost the position with the wages listed as “negotiable.”

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Financial meeting schedule to discuss and assess finances: The finance committee is going to arrange a meeting with Consumers CU, LMCU, and a local “Municipality Investment Firm” to determine the best way to invest our money so that we receive maximum interest and have some funds available without penalty. A motion was made by Trustee Woodward and seconded by Trustee Riekse to maintain a \$100,000 balance in our checking account and allow the finance committee (Dudas, Overkamp and Riekse) to invest the remainder of our funds in the most financially advantageous way possible. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Budget Meet Plan: The finance committee will meet in March to prepare the new budget.

Insurance Review: Trustee Dudas reported that the Board of Trustee’s liability insurance is due. She explained how this is a protection for each of us. The bill will be paid by our accounting firm.

Public Library Conference: Matt reported that he and Jessica would like to attend the Public Library Conference in Minneapolis in April. He has applied for stipends which will more than cover the cost of the conference, transportation, meals and lodging. Once he has received confirmation of these stipends, he would like to make the appropriate reservations, but will need the limit on the staff credit card to be increased in order to cover the costs until the reimbursement comes through. Motion by Woodward, supported by Anderson to approve their attendance at this conference and to increase the limit on the credit card to \$6000 once we have received confirmation of the stipend's approval. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Additional Items: Trustee Overkamp reported that the Village installed new parking signs on Park St. indicating that parking was for library patrons only from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. A donation was received from the Fruitport Lionesses. Trustee Woodward will send a thank you note.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

Motion by Riekse, supported by Overkamp to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ruth Woodward

