

**January 27, 2026  
Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda**

1. Roll Call
2. Public Comment
3. Consent Items (Attachments, VOTE)
  - a. December 2025 minutes - pg. 2
  - b. December 2025 financials - pg. 5
4. President's Report
  - a. Dashboard – pg. 10
  - b. Education - pg. 11
5. Information Items
  - a. Staff Reports (Attachments)
    - i. Director's Report - pg. 12
      - a. 2025 year end stats – pg. 13
    - ii. Adult Report - pg. 15
    - iii. Teen Report - pg. 16
    - iv. Children's Report - pg. 17
  - b. Auxiliary Board
    - i. Discovery Zone update (attachment, VOTE) – pg. 18
6. Board Discussion (Attachments)
  - a. Building Committee – pg. 19 (attachment, VOTE)
  - b. Finance Committee – pg. 20 (attachment, VOTE)
    - i. Pre-Audit Meeting
    - ii. Capital Projects transfer
  - c. Development – pg. 21
  - d. Strategic Planning – pg. 22
7. Mission Moments – pg. 23
8. New Business
9. Executive Session

Next meeting dates:      Tuesday, March 24 – 7:30 pm  
   Tuesday, May 19 – 7:30 pm

Annual Meeting:              Thursday, February 5 - 7:00 pm

## **Minutes of the December 16, 2025 RFRR Board Meeting**

Trustees: Lina Eroh, Georgia Dyer, Jan Kelsey, Val Chuebon, Jackie Cohen, Nicole Cunningham, Jennifer McArdle, Jill MacVicar, Diane Martin, Emilie Reddoch, Kathleen Riegelhaupt, Jaclyn Shanahan, Jim Steinthal, Emily Tisdale, Meredythe Ryan, Bettina Scott Funk

Lina Eroh began the meeting at 7:36. Lina welcomed Josh Nathan, the liaison from the City Council.

### Consent Agenda

The consent agenda contained the minutes of the October 2025 board meeting, the October and November 2025 financial statements, and the list of 12 new members of the Auxiliary Board. Nicole made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Kathleen seconded. All approved.

### President's Report

Lina expressed her gratitude to the Board for its support and advocacy for the library. The library has exceeded the annual campaign goal. She reminded the board that all trustee education including sexual harassment prevention training needed to be completed by December 31. She informed the Board that the NYS Regents are considering amendments regarding policies and review times. The library already has the policies and review timelines in place. The official vote on the city budget is tomorrow evening. She requested that Board members attend the meeting to support the library.

### Staff Reports

#### Director's Report

Chris reported that he is working on the launch of the Libconnect Pro software to replace Constant Comment. He has had a conversation with the high school principal about working together on projects. The library recently hosted the Spelling Bee and participated in the "Season of Giving" with the Historical Society. Forty families attended the Friends' Open House. The staff has undergone training in emergency

procedures based on the updated library policy. The bathroom renovation project has begun. The bathroom have been stripped down to the studs. Chris needs the names of HVAC companies to get quotes.

#### Adult Services

Catherine reported that there were carolers and the staff had 4 crafts at the Friends' Open House. This coming Saturday there will be a pop-up craft project to make diffusers. The cookbook club is growing. Between 12 and 18 people usually attend. Next Monday is the cookie exchange.

#### Teen Services

Catherine reported that lock-ins continue to be popular. Over forty have registered for the annual gingerbread house contest. Sara visited the high school and middle school and conducted a virtual escape room on a computer.

#### Children's Services

Catherine reported that there are lots of activities planned for the holiday break. The library now has American Girl dolls that circulate. Catherine gave an update on the Discovery Zone. The caretakers are bonding. There have already been 2 parties in the library. Clean up has been going better. The caregivers are helping one another.

#### Auxiliary Board

Meredythe reported that there will be 3 co-chairs for Novel Night this year. They will decided on a theme in January. They plan to frontload the fundraising in the beginning of the year as they did with Casino Night this year. Bettina reported that the 12 new members will join the board in January.

#### Building Committee

Chris reported that the committee reviewed all the quotes for the bathroom renovation and chose AG Premium. The work has begun and should take no more than 6 weeks to complete.

#### Development Committee

Georgia reported that the library had hit the goal of \$320,000. The donor list has been updated and she has sample drafts for contacts.

#### Heritage Committee

Jan proposed best selling author Nathaniel Philbrick as the 2025 recipient of the Mayor's Award. A moderator for the conversation has yet to be determined. She requested a motion to approve Nathaniel Philbrick as the 2025 recipient of the Mayor's Award. Nicole so moved. Jan seconded. All approved.

#### Nominating Committee

Lina reported that Matt is rolling off the Board and had been asked for a recommendation for a representative from the Osborn. Stephanie Larsen, a lawyer at the Osborn, grew up in Rye and has accepted the opportunity to be on the Board. This brings the Board to a total of 21. Jan moved to approve the slate of Trustees for the class of 2029. Kathleen seconded. All approved. Jan then moved to approve the slate of officers for 2026. Valerie seconded. All approved.

#### Mission Moments

Chris reported that the historic miniature program is very popular. It is being extended to fourth and fifth grades as well. Cooking with Kids program is doing back-to-back sessions because it is so popular. Rye Rev 250 is presenting a talk by Lear Beyer on Loyalists in Rye.

Lina thanked Chris and Catherine for all their hard work this year. There being no further business, she called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Emilie so moved. Jackie seconded. All approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:24.

**Action : The Board approve the December meeting minutes**

## December Financials

The December financials shows a very good year for the library.

In revenue, the Annual Campaign more than made up for the slight decrease in Misc revenue. The Osborn is mostly a timing issue.

In expenses, the budget is slightly under. There was an overage in print and av, offset by the under-spending in digital and periodicals. The adult staff are continuing to redo the periodical collections to eliminate EBSCO as a vendor, as when a magazine goes out of print, they substitute a "similar" publications, but the library has no control over the substitute titles.

Operations is slightly under budget as well. The lack of equipment purchases offset the overage in supplies.

In building operations, heating is below budget, but that might be due to a timing issue with Con-Ed. With the capital projects transfer backed out, building operations are under budget overall.

In personnel, while salaries are over budget, that is offset through the projections for healthcare and retirement coming in under expectations. The library also received a significant rebate for not having any workman's comp claims, and that offset the other insurance line.

On the endowment report, the \$100,000 transfer to operating is reflected on that page, as well as the income and expense report.

**Action : The Board accept the December financial statements**

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Rye Free Reading Room  
Income and Expense Report  
For 12 Months Ending December 31, 2025

	Current Month 2025	2025 YTD Actual	2025 YTD Budget	2025 Budget
<b>Income</b>				
City of Rye	\$ -	\$ 1,427,000	\$ 1,427,000	\$ 1,427,000
Annual Campaign	\$ 93,200	\$ 388,735	\$ 270,000	\$ 270,000
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 1,980	\$ 28,560	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000
Osborn Branch Library	\$ 4,468	\$ 51,585	\$ 53,066	\$ 53,066
Auxiliary Board Transfer	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000
Endowment Transfer	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 110,000	\$ 110,000
	<u>\$ 279,648</u>	<u>\$ 2,075,879</u>	<u>\$ 1,975,066</u>	<u>\$ 1,975,066</u>
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>Library Materials</b>				
Books	\$ 6,114	\$ 94,883	\$ 90,325	\$ 90,325
Audio Visual	\$ 3,752	\$ 31,412	\$ 24,500	\$ 24,500
Periodicals	\$ 275	\$ 8,117	\$ 13,800	\$ 13,800
Programs	\$ 991	\$ 11,889	\$ 13,500	\$ 13,500
Ebooks/ Binding	\$ 5,179	\$ 29,258	\$ 41,000	\$ 41,000
	<u>\$ 16,311</u>	<u>\$ 175,559</u>	<u>\$ 183,125</u>	<u>\$ 183,125</u>
<b>Library Operations</b>				
Supplies	\$ 2,183	\$ 20,919	\$ 15,270	\$ 15,270
Equipment & Systems - New	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
Equipment & Systems - Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500
Automated Systems	\$ 888	\$ 90,149	\$ 88,250	\$ 88,250
Telephone	\$ 757	\$ 6,975	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000
Postage	\$ 963	\$ 10,574	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Printing & Publicity	\$ 700	\$ 26,437	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000
Auditing	\$ -	\$ 23,222	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
Legal Services	\$ -	\$ 325	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
Interest	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Transfer to Designated Account	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 644	\$ 13,332	\$ 7,800	\$ 7,800
	<u>\$ 6,135</u>	<u>\$ 191,933</u>	<u>\$ 193,820</u>	<u>\$ 193,820</u>
<b>Building Operations</b>				
Heat	\$ 1,694	\$ 21,114	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
Light & Power	\$ 1,855	\$ 38,584	\$ 34,500	\$ 34,500
Water & Sewer	\$ 267	\$ 9,472	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Fixtures, Furnishings & Equipment	\$ -	\$ 8,478	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Building Supplies	\$ 1,458	\$ 13,642	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000
Contracted Services	\$ 3,731	\$ 53,592	\$ 72,000	\$ 72,000
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ -	\$ 8,114	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000
Insurance	\$ -	\$ 39,404	\$ 36,076	\$ 36,076
Capital Projects Fund Transfer	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ -	\$ -
	<u>\$ 9,005</u>	<u>\$ 292,800</u>	<u>\$ 212,576</u>	<u>\$ 212,576</u>
<b>Personnel</b>				
Salaries	\$ 85,054	\$ 1,093,520	\$ 1,067,061	\$ 1,067,061
Social Security	\$ 6,329	\$ 81,903	\$ 81,630	\$ 81,630
Retirement	\$ 120,486	\$ 120,486	\$ 126,629	\$ 126,629
Medical Insurance	\$ 6,361	\$ 68,459	\$ 79,820	\$ 79,820
Other Insurance	\$ 6,641	\$ 7,060	\$ 16,000	\$ 16,000
Payroll Services	\$ 758	\$ 9,860	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000
Staff Development	\$ 109	\$ 4,471	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<u>\$ 225,739</u>	<u>\$ 1,385,759</u>	<u>\$ 1,381,140</u>	<u>\$ 1,381,140</u>
Total Income	<u>\$ 279,648</u>	<u>\$ 2,075,879</u>	<u>\$ 1,975,066</u>	<u>\$ 1,975,066</u>
Total Expense	<u>\$ 257,189</u>	<u>\$ 2,046,051</u>	<u>\$ 1,970,661</u>	<u>\$ 1,970,661</u>
Net Receipts (Expense)	<u>\$ 22,459</u>	<u>\$ 29,828</u>	<u>\$ 4,405</u>	<u>\$ 4,405</u>

**Rye Free Reading Room  
Annual Campaign  
December 2025 YTD**

<i>Donations to the Current Annual Campaign</i>		2022	2023	2024	2025
Donations received & deposited in	JAN	85,387	32,982	3,137	18,105
	FEB	5,531	1,446	1,255	14,900
	MAR	5,764	2,953	6,143	2,295
	APR	3,659	4,214	15,077	2,279
	MAY	5,989	2,689	3,311	52,865
	JUN	4,953	1,736	7,783	11,260
	JUL	811	9,500	69,110	53,367
	AUG	203	1,032	10,330	6,509
	SEP	16,977	16,056	9,775	15,672
	OCT	81,183	134,064	32,760	41,740
	NOV	67,548	35,114	76,764	55,613
	DEC	66,435	64,832	87,511	93,200
	Total	344,440	306,618	322,956	367,805
Donations to <i>Previous or Subsequent</i> Annual Campaigns					
Donations to <i>prior</i> Annual Campaigns		85,287	30,883	12,738	20,931
Donations to the <i>subsequent</i> Annual Campaign		0	0	0	-
<i>Sub-total</i>		85,287	30,883	12,738	20,931

Rye Free Reading Room  
Endowment Report  
December 2025

<b>Endowment Inflows/Outflows:</b>	YTD 2025	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	YTD 2022	YTD 2021
Beg of Period (Market Value)	2,221,126	2,160,398	2,109,492	2,388,851	2,188,828
Expenses	(15,603)	(15,538)	(14,636)	(14,834)	(15,674)
Transfer to/from Other Funds	(100,000)	(101,387)	(105,000)	(101,616)	(95,000)
Interest & Dividend Income	72,776	60,868	53,480	57,746	63,379
Appreciation	157,220	116,785	117,063	(220,654)	247,318
End of Period Bal (Market Value)	2,335,519	2,221,126	2,160,398	2,109,492	2,388,851
Endowment Performance	9.65%	7.50%	7.39%	-7.44%	13.48%
Return of S&P 500	17.88%	25.02%	26.29%	-18.11%	28.71%
Return of Barclays Bloomberg Aggregate Bond Index	7.30%	1.25%	5.53%	-13.01%	-1.54%

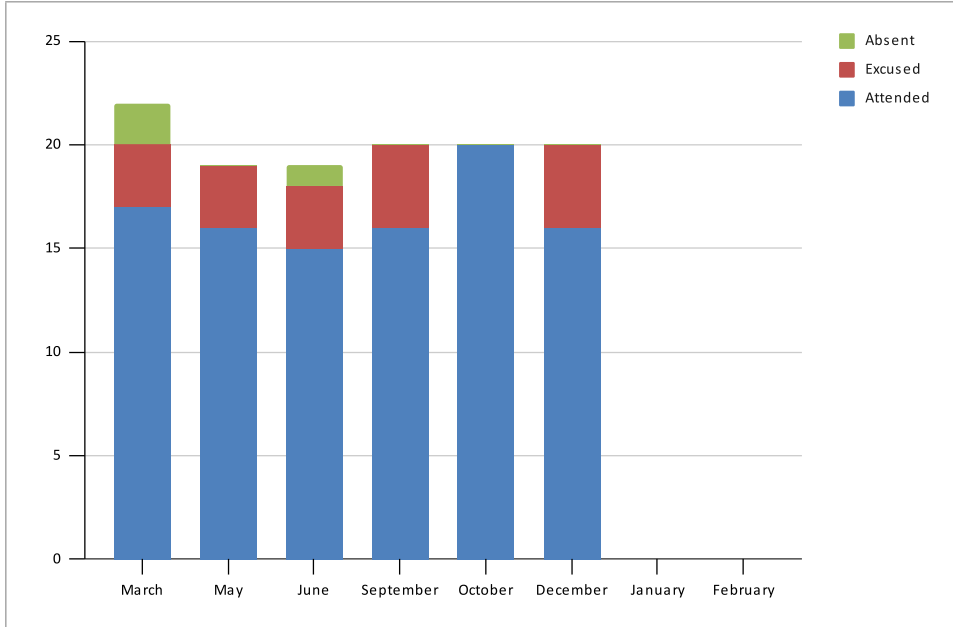
<b>Silvercrest:</b>		YTD 2025	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	YTD 2022	YTD 2021
Cash & Equivalents	3%	66,153	111,218	(27,006)	29,727	12,815
Fixed Income	37%	766,991	669,740	760,448	775,964	884,363
Equities	51%	1,072,653	1,157,022	1,166,785	1,046,548	1,170,444
Gold	7%	144,945	24,213	19,117	16,964	17,096
Other	2%	43,469	31,358	30,573	46,723	71,182
<b>Silvercrest Total</b>	100%	2,094,210	1,993,551	1,949,918	1,915,926	2,155,900

Endowment Breakdown at:		YTD 2025	Permanently Restricted	Temp Restricted & Board Designated	Total
Shea			41,680	62,343	104,023
Flores			76,650	621	77,271
Balf			27,390	32,625	60,015
Silvercrest			745,086	1,349,124	2,094,210
			\$ 890,806	1,444,713	2,335,519

For 12 Months Ending December 31, 2025

	Unrestricted (Operating)	Temp. Restricted (Designated)	Endowment and Board Restricted	Combined
<b>Income</b>				
City of Rye	\$ 1,427,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,427,000
Annual Campaign	388,735	0	0	388,735
Contribution	-	267,192	0	267,192
Grants	-	0	0	-
Osborn Branch Library	51,585	0	0	51,585
Income from Invested and Equity	-	3,988	72,776	76,764
Miscellaneous	28,560	19,637	0	48,197
Transfer: Auxiliary to Operating	-	0	0	-
Transfer: Operating to Designated	-	0	0	-
Transfer: Operating to Cap Projects	-100,000	100,000	0	-
	<u>1,795,879</u>	<u>390,817</u>	<u>72,776</u>	<u>2,259,473</u>
Transfer: Auxiliary to Operating	80,000	-80,000	0	-
Transfer: Endowment to Operating	100,000	0	-100,000	-
Appreciation/Depreciation	-	0	57,220	57,220
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>1,975,879</b>	<b>310,817</b>	<b>29,996</b>	<b>2,316,692</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>Library Materials</b>				
Books	94,883	4,667	0	99,550
Audio Visual	31,412	0	0	31,412
Periodicals	8,117	2,000	0	10,117
Programs	11,889	177,914	0	189,803
Online Resources	29,258	0	0	29,258
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	-
	<u>175,559</u>	<u>184,581</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>360,140</u>
<b>Library Operations</b>				
Supplies	20,919	780	0	21,699
Equipment & Systems - New	0	0	0	-
Equipment & Systems - Maintenance	0	0	0	-
Automated Systems	90,149	1,272	0	91,421
Telephone	6,975	0	0	6,975
Postage	10,574	0	0	10,574
Printing & Publicity	26,437	2,271	0	28,708
Auditing	23,222	0	0	23,222
Interest	0	0	0	-
Legal Services	325	0	0	325
Miscellaneous	13,332	0	0	13,332
	<u>191,933</u>	<u>4,323</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>196,256</u>
<b>Building Operations</b>				
Heat	21,114	0	0	21,114
Light & Power	38,584	0	0	38,584
Water & Sewer	9,472	0	0	9,472
Fixtures, Furnishings & Equipment	8,478	86,498	0	94,976
Building Supplies	13,642	0	0	13,642
Contracted Services	53,592	63,250	0	116,842
Repairs & Maintenance	8,114	33,140	0	41,254
Insurance	39,404	0	0	39,404
Miscellaneous	400	1,125	15,603	17,128
	<u>192,800</u>	<u>184,013</u>	<u>15,603</u>	<u>392,416</u>
<b>Personnel</b>				
Salaries	1,093,520	0	0	1,093,520
Social Security	81,903	0	0	81,903
Retirement	120,486	0	0	120,486
Medical Insurance	68,459	0	0	68,459
Other Insurance	7,060	0	0	7,060
Payroll Services	9,860	0	0	9,860
Staff Development	4,471	0	0	4,471
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	-
	<u>1,385,759</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,385,759</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>1,946,051</b>	<b>372,917</b>	<b>15,603</b>	<b>2,334,571</b>
Net Receipts/Expenses	29,828	-62,100	14,393	-17,879
Prior Year Funds	273,266	328,664	2,109,492	2,711,422
<b>Balance</b>	<b>303,094</b>	<b>266,564</b>	<b>2,123,885</b>	<b>2,693,543</b>

Trustee Attendance



Trustee Attendance

	Attended	Excused	Absent	Virtual
March	17	3	2	
May	16	3	0	
June	15	3	1	
September	16	4	0	
October	20	0	0	
December	15	4	1	
January				
February				

**Trustee Committees**

**Executive**

Lina Eroh (Chair), Kirstin Bucci, Georgia Dyer  
Jan Kelsey, Katie Vernance

**Building**

Emilie Reddoch (Chair), Jill Macvicar,  
Kathleen Riegelhaupt, Jim Steintal

**Finance**

Katie Vernance (Chair), Kirstin Bucci  
Val Chuebon, Kathleen Riegelhaupt

**Strategic Planning**

Nicole Cunningham (Chair), Matt Anderson,  
Kathleen Riegelhaupt, Duncan Sibson

**Heritage**

Jan Kelsey (Chair)

**Development**

Georgia Dyer (Chair) Val Chuebon  
Diane Martin, Duncan Sibson, Jim Steintal  
Emily Tisdale

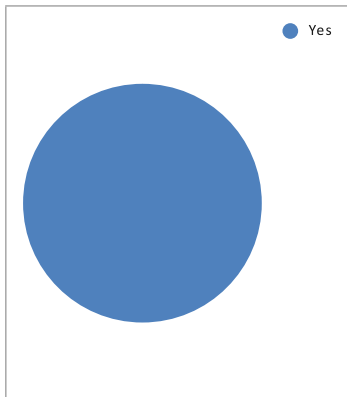
**Nominating**

Jaclyn Shanahan (Chair), Diane Martin  
Emilie Reddoch, Emily Tisdale

**Policy**

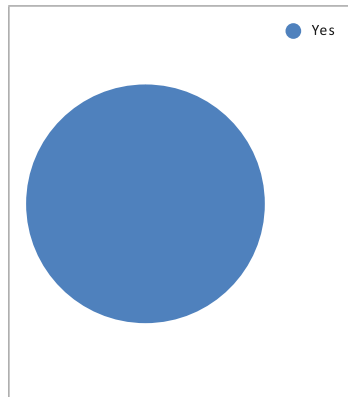
Jim Steintal (Chair), Jackie Cohen  
Jen McArdle

Conflict of Interest



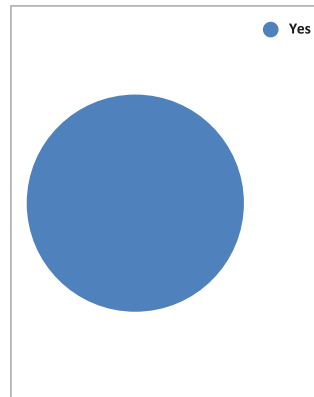
Yes 20  
No 0

Trustee Education



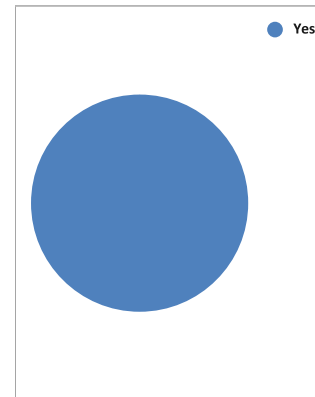
Yes 20  
No 0

Trustee Giving



Yes 20  
No 0

Sexual Harrassment



Yes 20  
No 0

## Trustee Education

Trustees are required to complete an annual sexual harassment prevention training. You may credit any interactive sexual harassment prevention training course taken this year to fulfill this requirement. Contact Chris to self-attest, or submit a certificate of completion. Please note this training does not count towards the 2 hour continuing education requirement.

NYC Sexual Harassment Prevention Training -  
<https://www.nyc.gov/site/cchr/law/sexual-harassment-training.page>

On demand opportunities for 2026

Pre-recorded Education Opportunities for 2026

- Pre-recorded webinars from New York State available at the link below.
  - <https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/trustees/webinars.htm>
- Pre-recorded videos from Trustee Handbook Club discussion series from the Mid Hudson Library System:
  - [https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLd\\_RtTwqkH2bNgVlcb1pWaTSa7dZRfPbJ&feature=shared](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLd_RtTwqkH2bNgVlcb1pWaTSa7dZRfPbJ&feature=shared)
- Pre-recorded videos from Trustee Handbook Club discussion series from WebJunction
  - <https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/webjunction/index.html>

## Director's Report

### LIBRARY OPERATIONS:

- Budget
  - Reviewed departmental budgets with assistant director and business manager
- Strategic Planning
  - Drafted programming plans for increased community impact
  - Met with Granicus to review RyeTV equipment replacement

### FUNDRAISING, OUTREACH & COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

- Annual Campaign
  - Sent thank you notes to library Friends
- Community Relations
  - Attended Osborn Home Health reception
  - Judged Rye YMCA Distracted Driving Poster contest
  - Met with Abbey Kumar to discuss Discovery Zone
  - Launched new e-mail platform for library programming and marketing
- Fundraising
  - Reviewed IMLS grant opportunities
  - Completed Auxiliary Board wrap up email

### BUILDING & GROUNDS:

- Started bathroom renovation project
- Met with security contractor regarding obsolete equipment

### STAFF & PERSONNEL

- Planned 2025 staff holiday party

## 2025 Year End Statistics

The December financials shows a very good year for the library.

In revenue, the Annual Campaign more than made up for the slight decrease in Misc revenue. The Osborn is mostly a timing issue.

In expenses, the budget is slightly under. There was an overage in print and av, offset by the under-spending in digital and periodicals. The adult staff are continuing to redo the periodical collections to eliminate EBSCO as a vendor, as when a magazine goes out of print, they substitute a "similar" publications, but the library has no control over the substitute titles.

Operations is slightly under budget as well. The lack of equipment purchases offset the overage in supplies.

In building operations, heating is below budget, but that might be due to a timing issue with Con-Ed. With the capital projects transfer backed out, building operations are under budget overall.

In personnel, while salaries are over budget, that is offset through the projections for healthcare and retirement coming in under expectations. The library also received a significant rebate for not having any workman's comp claims, and that offset the other insurance line.

On the endowment report, the \$100,000 transfer to operating is reflected on that page, as well as the income and expense report.

**Rye Free Reading Room** Statistical Summary  
**Lending Services**

<b>Circulation to Patrons</b>		<b>Oct 24</b>	<b>Nov 24</b>	<b>Dec 24</b>	<b>Oct 25</b>	<b>Nov 25</b>
RFRR - Total		<b>13642</b>	<b>14171</b>	<b>13883</b>	<b>15387</b>	<b>14218</b>
<i>Adult - All Categories</i>		<b>9188</b>	<b>9374</b>	<b>9958</b>	<b>11209</b>	<b>9694</b>
Fiction		2475	2414	2500	2590	2225
Non-Fiction		962	996	962	862	823
Express (Book + AV)		249	252	243	158	169
E-Media		4879	5172	5563	6341	5845
Movie		481	414	557	461	473
Music		20	18	38	23	32
Other		122	108	95	774	127
<i>Children's - All Categories</i>		<b>4454</b>	<b>4797</b>	<b>3925</b>	<b>4178</b>	<b>4524</b>
Fiction		3592	3888	3165	3233	3629
Non-Fiction		658	688	537	729	659
Movie		21	21	33	16	28
Music		0	0	0	0	5
Other		183	200	190	200	203
ROS		<b>286</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>313</b>
<b>ILL to Other WLS Libraries</b>		<b>Oct 24</b>	<b>Nov 24</b>	<b>Dec 24</b>	<b>Oct 25</b>	<b>Nov 25</b>
RFRR		1186	1192	1072	1138	1036
ROS		18	25	23	25	26
<b>New Patron Registration</b>		<b>Oct 24</b>	<b>Nov 24</b>	<b>Dec 24</b>	<b>Oct 25</b>	<b>Nov 25</b>
RFRR		<b>74</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>57</b>
<i>Adult</i>		58	48	42	39	44
<i>Teen</i>		6	12	2	5	3
<i>Children</i>		10	10	3	11	10
<i>Digital</i>		28	25	27	30	29
ROS		<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Reference Services</b>		<b>Oct 24</b>	<b>Nov 24</b>	<b>Dec 24</b>	<b>Oct 25</b>	<b>Nov 25</b>
<b>Questions Answered</b>		<b>Oct 24</b>	<b>Nov 24</b>	<b>Dec 24</b>	<b>Oct 25</b>	<b>Nov 25</b>
RFRR		<b>4037</b>	<b>4094</b>	<b>3381</b>	<b>3734</b>	<b>3825</b>
Adult		3081	2749	2433	2625	2810
Children		956	1345	948	1109	1015
ROS		178	152	145	176	151
<b>Programs &amp; Events (RFRR Only)</b>		<b>Oct 24</b>	<b>Nov 24</b>	<b>Dec 24</b>	<b>Oct 25</b>	<b>Nov 25</b>
<b>Programs &amp; Program Attendance</b>		<b>Oct 24</b>	<b>Nov 24</b>	<b>Dec 24</b>	<b>Oct 25</b>	<b>Nov 25</b>
<i>Programs</i>		<b>100</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>88</b>
Adult		27	23	12	38	24
Teen		14	10	9	21	15

## Adult Services

### PROGRAMMING:

- Rye Storytellers
- Upcoming Program 01/29: National Puzzle Day - Puzzle Swap and Community Puzzle

### Exhibits

- *In the Gallery - Meditative Abstraction a solo exhibition of paintings by Phylcia Eileen Tierney*

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

#### **Strategic Priority 1: Independent Reading Services**

- Read in Rye: Emotional Fitness with Shaun Zetlin
- Book Displays - *RFRR Off The Shelf Book Picks, RW250: 13 books for 13 colonies - Virginia, Winter Reads, NYT Notable Books of 2025*

#### **Strategic Priority 4: Community Interest Advancement**

- Nyc Urban Sktchers

### SPACE BOOKINGS

- Local History Room – 48
- Left Study Room – 34
- Right Study Room - 31

### ONE ON ONE APPOINTMENTS

- Notary Appointments – 17
- Technology Training - 2

## Teen Services

### PROGRAMMING AND DISPLAYS:

- The collaboration with Inclure on bi-monthly Physical and Mental Wellness on Tuesdays will start this week with teens interested in the grounding techniques and hopefully staying.
- A collaboration we did with the Wainwright House for cookie decorating had 19 kids attend and positive feedback from attendees and our collaborator coordinator

### **Strategic Goals**

1. Independent Reading and Reading Drop-off Prevention
  - Current book displays feature YA sports romances or the “rivals to lovers” trope in YA romance
2. Community Interest Advancement
  - Heard in Rye continues to meet, and the library has agreed to host a panel discussion in 2026. Materials

### Materials

- Board games have been moved into plastic boxes behind the circulation desk to reduce pieces lost when people play with them in the library. Copies of in-library use games have been added for families to enjoy while in the building.

## Children's Services

### Community Interest Advancement

- Holiday programming was well attending, with full registrations for all, including our Noon Years Eve party, that had over 100 people in attendance.

### Independent Reading and Reading Drop-off Prevention

- The Books and Beyond book club for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders will meet at the end of January to discuss *Belly Up* by Stuart Gibbs.
- The new book club for 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> graders will have their first winter meeting this coming Saturday. Tell your friends! It's a great way for parents and kids to read and spend time together.
- ARF! Is a new program where kids can come read to a dog for a 10 minute session. It meets once a month on Friday after school. January's session is Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup>. People must call to reserve their time slot.

### Outreach:

- Friday morning we will be seeing a school group from CCNS to do a short storytime about MLK Jr. and an activity.
- RCDS 1<sup>st</sup> graders will be visiting in February for a storytime and to learn more about the library.
- A local Girl Scout Troop will be visiting in the beginning of February for an introduction to the library.

### Materials

- New Wonderbooks have arrived on the shelves.

## Discovery Zone

The Discovery Zone page has resigned. After internal discussion, Chris approached Abbey to see if there were any staff members there that would be interested in additional hours. After some discussion over the needs, Abbey drafted a proposal for staffing, enrichment activities, and material maintenance.

Learn'ique will provide:

- One designated staff member, with experience working in early childhood education, Monday-Friday from 3:00-6:00pm. This staff member will maintain order in the space, supervise and ensure that children are using materials safely and respectfully, implement one directed educational activity per day, re-organize and sanitize materials prior to closing the space each evening.
- Weekly on-site leadership and evaluation, provided by Abbey Lombardo-Kumar, on Wednesdays from 12:00-2:00pm. While on-site weekly Abbey will conduct a physical walk through to ensure that all materials, furniture and finishes are safe and fully functional (i.e. no broken parts, sharp edges, choking hazards, etc.), conduct weekly evaluations of materials that will include a detailed review of storage solutions, suggestions regarding the addition of curated educational materials, educational materials rotation within the space to keep things fresh, the planning of daily educational activities, and the implementation and maintenance of organizational systems (including the upkeep of labels) to ensure optimal use and functionality.
- Additional leadership responsibilities will include: full staff management and supervision, staff payroll, supply ordering, weekly communication with library staff and administration in order to ensure that the overall goals for the space are being met consistently.

Pilot Program Cost - \$14,375

Year long cost - \$34,500

Following discussion with the Auxiliary Board, Chris has asked for a draft calendar of enrichment activities and a biography for the Learnique staff member. Chris will also research additional providers for services for cost comparison.

**Action : The Board Approve the pilot project for February 2026 to June 2026**

## **Building Committee Security System Update**

As part of the system upgrade, Securitas is recommending that the library switch over from wireless monitors on the windows to wireless motion detectors instead. The wireless monitors have not been serviced in a number of years, and are not compatible with the new system. The monitors are generally attached to interior windows and doors. It is more cost effective to replace the different small pieces with a few wireless motion detectors.

The labor and upgrade cost would be \$6,910.02.

**Action : The Board approve the \$6,910.02 from Capital Projects to supplement the existing security system upgrade**

**Finance and Audit Committees**  
**January 14, 2026**  
**1:45 pm**

Attending: Katie Vernace, Val Chuebon, Kathleen Riegelhaupt  
Guests: Nicolette Donovan, Jaime Rapps  
Staff: Stacy Lavelle, Chris Shoemaker

Chris Shoemaker welcomed Jaime Rapps and Nicolette Donovan from Grassi, and asked them to review the audit process.

The audit looks at revenue, donor letters, the library investment policy, and the library programs and services. Key audit areas that are reviewed are cash, investments, property, net assets, and revenue. They will also take a look at the IT infrastructure.

The audit will prepare a management letter that outlines any material weaknesses, as well as the audited financial statement.

After Nicolette and Jaime left the meeting, the committee discussed the capital projects fund transfer. Due to the success of the annual campaign, the committee recommended moving \$100,000 from the cash on hand to the capital projects fund.

**Action : The Board Approve the transfer of \$100,000 from operating cash on hand to the Capital Projects fund.**

## **Development Committee**

The Annual Campaign wrapped up 2025 with 523 friends and a total of \$381,000 raised. This compares to last year with \$336,000 raised from 657 Friends. There were 74 new Friends this year, compared to 125 last year.

The committee will be doing a lapsed Friend Appeal during National Library Week, April 19 to 25.

## **Strategic Planning**

With the City fully funding the core operating cost, the library has the opportunity to respond to community needs and requests on a larger scale than previous years. Trustees were asked to complete a short planning survey that will shape these initial discussions and begin the larger strategic planning process.

## Mission Moments

Register to attend the Annual Meeting. Don't miss out on the opportunity to hear from NY Times Bestselling author Nathaniel Philbrick. The annual meeting is February 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, with the author program starting at 7:30 pm.

The coziest place in the cold? The library! Enjoy the fire, browse for a book, and check out the digital magazine collection from around the world.

### Notable Activities

Wednesday, February 11 at 6:30 pm – The Hidden History of Slavery  
*The Hidden History of Slavery in New York* is a 30-minute documentary for broadcast television, that digs deeply into an infamous chapter in our country that largely hasn't made its way into the history books

Thursday, February 12 at 7 – Read in Rye : AI in Real Life  
Join digital innovation executive Lee Huang for an engaging and thought-provoking exploration of artificial intelligence—what it truly is, how it's already woven into our daily lives, businesses, and work, and where it's headed next.

Friday, February 27 at 4 pm – ARF!  
ARF! is an innovative literacy program that allows students to improve their reading skills and inspires them to become lifelong readers by reading aloud to our certified therapy dogs.

Saturday, March 7 at 10:30 am – Irish Tea and Tales  
Join the Rye Storytelling Guild for snacks, anecdotes and stories as we celebrate Irish heritage!

Thursday, March 19 at 7 pm – Read in Rye : Sarah Jane Cion  
Join jazz pianist, composer, and author **Sarah Jane Cion** for an intimate evening of storytelling, live piano music, and reflection. Drawing from her memoir *The Now Era*, Cion weaves together short readings with improvised music, exploring creativity, presence, resilience, and life in the arts.