

**November 19, 2024  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
Agenda**

1. Roll Call
2. Public Comment
3. Consent Items (VOTE)
  - a. Oct 2024 minutes (Attachment) pg. 2
  - b. Oct 2024 financials (Attachment) pg. 5
4. President's Report
  - a. Trustee Education (Attachment) pg. 10
  - b. Trustee Dashboard (Attachment) pg. 11
  - c. 2025 Board Meeting Schedule (Attachment, VOTE) pg. 12
5. Information Items
  - a. Staff Reports (Attachments)
    - i. Director's Report pg. 13
      1. 2025 Holiday Closing Schedule (Attachment, VOTE) pg. 14
    - ii. Adult Report pg. 15
    - iii. Teen Report pg. 16
    - iv. Children's Report pg. 17
6. Board Discussion
  - a. Development Committee
    - i. Membership (Attachment) pg. 18
  - b. Finance Committee
    - i. 2025 Budget (Attachment) pg. 19
  - c. Building and Grounds Committee
    - i. Seawall Update (Attachment) pg. 23
  - d. Nominating Committee
    - i. Class of 2028 (Attachment, VOTE) pg. 24
  - e. Mission Moments (Attachment) pg. 25
7. New Business
8. Executive Session

Next meeting dates:           Tuesday, December 17– 7:30 pm  
  Tuesday, January 28 – 7:30 pm

## **Minutes of the October 29, 2024 RFRR Board Meeting**

Present: Kirstin Bucci, Lina Eroh, Katie Vernace, Jan Kelsey, Kathleen Riegelhaupt, , Jill Macvicar, Megan Monaghan, Jaclyn Shanahan, Diane Martin

Kirstin Bucci began the meeting at 7:40. There being no quorum present, the meeting began with informational reports. One member of the public was present.

### President's Report

Kirstin reminded the board about the trustee education requirement of 3 hours of continuing education plus sexual harassment prevention training.

### Staff Reports

#### Director's Report

Chris reported that the community needs survey had been completed. He invited the trustees to see the blue bird nest that had been set up by the Little Garden Club. He reviewed the third quarter statistics. The library is ahead of year end performance in the areas of ebook usage, registration, program attendance and door count.

### Adult Services

Catherine reported that two Medicare enrollment training programs have been held. A number of one-on-one meetings with the instructor have also taken place. The mahjong group has doubled in size. There is a monthly book club for the Rye Rec Seniors. The library is participating in the Great Give Back, a statewide library community services initiative to recycle children's clothing.

### Teen Services

Catherine reported good attendance for the jack-o-lantern float event. The library is partnering with the Rye Youth Council on peer youth training.

### Children's Services

Catherine reported that the Monster Mash Halloween program had 35 attendees. A program on girls who code is being developed. The library is looking for parents of fourth graders to develop a new spelling bee division for that age group.

### Auxiliary Board

Georgia reported that Novel Night had been a huge success. It raised close to \$160,000. A magazine "Novella" with photos of the evening will be coming out in print form for the guests and digitally for the listserv.

There now being a quorum, Kirstin called the meeting to order at 8:25.

### Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda includes the September 2024 meeting minutes, and the September 2024 financial statements. Kathleen moved to accept the consent agenda. Jan seconded. All approved.

### Development

Chris reported that the second mailer was scheduled to go out to lapsed donors. He presented the naming procedures for discussion. A discussion ensued concerning the duration of the named space, the various dollar amounts, and how to publicize the naming possibilities. The procedures will be discussed again at a future meeting.

### Budget

Chris presented a hand out that described the level of municipal funding for libraries in Westchester County. A discussion ensued about the percentage of library operating costs that are or should be covered by the city. Kirstin called for the development of a communications strategy and plan with which to approach the various city officials.

### Nominating

Megan reported that there were five candidates for the class of 2028 for the board. Maria is the only trustee rolling off in December. The five candidates are Valerie Chuebon, Georgia Dyer, Emily Kindler Tisdale, Duncan Sibson and Jim Steinthal.

Jan made a motion to accept the proposed candidates for the class of 2028. Kathleen seconded. All approved.

Kirstin requested a motion for the board to go into executive session to discuss employment for a particular person. Jan so moved. Lena seconded. All approved. The board went into executive session at 8:56.

The board came out of executive session at 9:17. Kathleen moved that the meeting be adjourned. Lena seconded. All approved. The meeting ended at 9:18.

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

## October Financials

The October financials reflect the first portion of annual campaign giving.

In expenses, the library switched Coverall to Maria's Cleaning for cleaning services, so there are two payments reflected in contracted services. Coverall was no longer meeting the cleaning standards, despite multiple conversations and promises to correct the service.

There were three pay periods in October, so salaries are higher than budget due to that timing issue.

On the combined report, the library received the 3rd refund for the Employee Retention Tax Credit. Two had been received in 2022, and then the federal government paused the program. The funds were credited to the capital projects fund.

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

Rye Free Reading Room  
Income and Expense Report  
For 10 Months Ending October 31, 2024

	Current Month 2024	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	2024 Budget
<b>Income</b>				
City of Rye	\$ -	\$ 1,385,000	\$ 1,385,000	\$ 1,385,000
Annual Campaign	\$ 32,760	\$ 171,421	\$ 208,333	\$ 250,000
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 2,412	\$ 28,348	\$ 29,167	\$ 35,000
Osborn Branch Library	\$ 3,552	\$ 43,086	\$ 42,764	\$ 51,317
Auxiliary Board Transfer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 58,333	\$ 70,000
Endowment Transfer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 87,500	\$ 105,000
	<u>\$ 38,724</u>	<u>\$ 1,627,855</u>	<u>\$ 1,811,098</u>	<u>\$ 1,896,317</u>
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>Library Materials</b>				
Books	\$ 7,366	\$ 68,115	\$ 74,071	\$ 88,885
Audio Visual	\$ 1,571	\$ 37,498	\$ 21,617	\$ 25,940
Periodicals	\$ 116	\$ 9,656	\$ 10,750	\$ 12,900
Programs	\$ 1,796	\$ 9,095	\$ 11,250	\$ 13,500
Ebooks/ Binding	\$ 495	\$ 23,707	\$ 34,167	\$ 41,000
	<u>\$ 11,344</u>	<u>\$ 148,071</u>	<u>\$ 151,854</u>	<u>\$ 182,225</u>
<b>Library Operations</b>				
Supplies	\$ 1,657	\$ 13,163	\$ 12,500	\$ 15,000
Equipment & Systems - New		\$ -	\$ 3,750	\$ 4,500
Equipment & Systems - Maintenance		\$ -	\$ 4,167	\$ 5,000
Automated Systems	\$ 1,826	\$ 83,993	\$ 67,708	\$ 81,250
Telephone	\$ 697	\$ 5,612	\$ 5,500	\$ 6,600
Postage	\$ 850	\$ 5,912	\$ 7,500	\$ 9,000
Printing & Publicity	\$ 950	\$ 24,048	\$ 26,667	\$ 32,000
Auditing		\$ 22,117	\$ 18,750	\$ 22,500
Legal Services		\$ -	\$ 1,667	\$ 2,000
Interest		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Transfer to Designated Account		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,128	\$ 11,105	\$ 6,500	\$ 7,800
	<u>\$ 7,108</u>	<u>\$ 165,950</u>	<u>\$ 154,708</u>	<u>\$ 185,650</u>
<b>Building Operations</b>				
Heat	\$ 250	\$ 16,420	\$ 16,667	\$ 20,000
Light & Power	\$ 3,396	\$ 22,772	\$ 28,750	\$ 34,500
Water & Sewer	\$ 300	\$ 8,034	\$ 7,500	\$ 9,000
Fixtures, Furnishings & Equipment		\$ 5,614	\$ 4,167	\$ 5,000
Building Supplies	\$ 795	\$ 8,981	\$ 10,000	\$ 12,000
Contracted Services	\$ 7,908	\$ 50,023	\$ 59,750	\$ 71,700
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 1,200	\$ 4,737	\$ 15,000	\$ 18,000
Insurance	\$ -	\$ 29,069	\$ 28,647	\$ 34,376
Capital Projects Fund Transfer	\$ -	\$ 29,000	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<u>\$ 13,849</u>	<u>\$ 174,650</u>	<u>\$ 170,480</u>	<u>\$ 204,576</u>
<b>Personnel</b>				
Salaries	\$ 117,767	\$ 864,976	\$ 860,253	\$ 1,032,304
Social Security	\$ 8,651	\$ 63,352	\$ 65,809	\$ 78,971
Retirement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 86,995	\$ 104,394
Medical Insurance	\$ 6,308	\$ 64,355	\$ 68,186	\$ 81,823
Other Insurance	\$ -	\$ 3,987	\$ 13,333	\$ 16,000
Payroll Services	\$ 966	\$ 7,614	\$ 5,833	\$ 7,000
Staff Development	\$ 747	\$ 4,068	\$ 2,500	\$ 3,000
Miscellaneous		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<u>\$ 134,439</u>	<u>\$ 1,008,352</u>	<u>\$ 1,102,910</u>	<u>\$ 1,323,492</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>\$ 38,724</u>	<u>\$ 1,627,855</u>	<u>\$ 1,811,098</u>	<u>\$ 1,896,317</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>\$ 166,739</u>	<u>\$ 1,497,023</u>	<u>\$ 1,579,953</u>	<u>\$ 1,895,943</u>
<b>Net Receipts (Expense)</b>	<u>\$ (128,015)</u>	<u>\$ 130,833</u>	<u>\$ 231,145</u>	<u>\$ 374</u>

**Rye Free Reading Room  
Annual Campaign  
October 2024 YTD**

<i>Donations to the Current Annual Campaign</i>		2022	2023	2024
Donations received & deposited in	JAN	85,387	32,982	3,137
	FEB	5,531	1,446	1,255
	MAR	5,764	2,953	6,143
	APR	3,659	4,214	15,077
	MAY	5,989	2,689	3,311
	JUN	4,953	1,736	7,783
	JUL	811	9,500	69,110
	AUG	203	1,032	10,330
	SEP	16,977	16,056	9,775
	OCT	81,183	134,064	32,760
	NOV	67,548	35,114	
	DEC	66,435	64,832	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>344,440</b>	<b>306,618</b>	<b>158,681</b>
Donations to <i>Previous or Subsequent</i> Annual Campaigns				
Donations to <i>prior</i> Annual Campaigns		85,287	30,883	12,738
Donations to the <i>subsequent</i> Annual Campaign		0	0	0
<i>Sub-total</i>		<u>85,287</u>	<u>30,883</u>	<u>12,738</u>

Rye Free Reading Room  
Endowment Report  
October 2024

Endowment Inflows/Outflows:	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	YTD 2022	YTD 2021	YTD 2020
Beg of Period (Market Value)	2,160,398	2,109,492	2,388,851	2,188,828	2,233,617
Expenses	(15,538)	(14,636)	(14,834)	(15,674)	(13,845)
Transfer to/from Other Funds	0	(105,000)	(101,616)	(95,000)	(95,004)
Interest & Dividend Income	36,649	53,480	57,746	63,379	59,271
Appreciation	150,028	117,063	(220,654)	247,318	4,789
End of Period Bal (Market Value)	2,331,536	2,160,398	2,109,492	2,388,851	2,188,828
Endowment Performance	7.92%	7.39%	-7.44%	13.48%	2.25%
Return of S&P 500	20.97%	26.29%	-18.11%	28.71%	18.40%
Return of Barclays Bloomberg Aggregate Bond Index	1.86%	5.53%	-13.01%	-1.54%	7.51%

Silvercrest:		YTD 2024	YTD 2023	YTD 2022	YTD 2021	12/31/2020
Cash & Equivalents	5%	111,274	(27,006)	29,727	12,815	114,631
Fixed Income	35%	734,873	760,448	775,964	884,363	647,426
Equities	57%	1,197,263	1,166,785	1,046,548	1,170,444	1,143,143
Gold	1%	25,351	19,117	16,964	17,096	26,754
Other	2%	31,764	30,573	46,723	71,182	32,810
<b>Silvercrest Total</b>	100%	2,100,525	1,949,918	1,915,926	2,155,900	1,964,764

Endowment Breakdown at:		YTD 2024	Permanently Restricted	Temp Restricted & Board Designated	Total
Shea			41,680	56,686	98,366
Flores			76,650	(868)	75,782
Balf			27,390	29,472	56,862
Silvercrest			745,086	1,355,439	2,100,525
			\$ 890,806	1,440,730	2,331,536



**Rye Free Reading Room- Combined Report  
For 10 Months Ending October 31, 2024**

	Unrestricted (Operating)	Temp. Restricted (Designated)	Endowment and Board Restricted	Combined
<b>Income</b>				
City of Rye	\$ 1,385,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,385,000
Annual Campaign	171,421	0	0	171,421
Contribution	-	296,163	0	296,163
Grants	-	0	0	-
Osborn Branch Library	43,086	0	0	43,086
Income from Invested and Equity	-	18,933	36,649	55,582
Miscellaneous	28,348	101,749	0	130,097
Transfer: Auxiliary to Operating	-	0	0	-
Transfer: Operating to Designated	-	0	0	-
Transfer: Operating to Cap Projects	-29,000	29,000	0	-
	<u>1,598,855</u>	<u>445,845</u>	<u>36,649</u>	<u>2,081,349</u>
Transfer: Auxiliary to Operating	0	0	0	-
Transfer: Endowment to Operating	0	0	0	-
Appreciation/Depreciation		0	12,063	12,063
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>1,598,855</b>	<b>445,845</b>	<b>48,711</b>	<b>2,093,411</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>Library Materials</b>				
Books	68,115	22,723	0	90,838
Audio Visual	37,498	0	0	37,498
Periodicals	9,656	0	0	9,656
Programs	9,095	116,173	0	125,268
Online Resources	495	0	0	495
Miscellaneous	23,212	0	0	23,212
	<u>148,071</u>	<u>138,896</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>286,967</u>
<b>Library Operations</b>				
Supplies	13,163	1,278	0	14,441
Equipment & Systems - New	0	0	0	-
Equipment & Systems - Maintenance	0	0	0	-
Automated Systems	83,993	960	0	84,953
Telephone	5,612	0	0	5,612
Postage	5,912	0	0	5,912
Printing & Publicity	24,048	6,045	0	30,093
Auditing	22,117	0	0	22,117
Interest	0	0	0	-
Legal Services	0	0	0	-
Miscellaneous	11,105	6,647	0	17,752
	<u>165,950</u>	<u>14,930</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>180,880</u>
<b>Building Operations</b>				
Heat	16,420	0	0	16,420
Light & Power	22,772	0	0	22,772
Water & Sewer	8,034	0	0	8,034
Fixtures, Furnishings & Equipment	5,614	56,973	0	62,587
Building Supplies	8,981	5,636	0	14,617
Contracted Services	50,023	76,910	0	126,933
Repairs & Maintenance	4,737	0	0	4,737
Insurance	29,069	0	0	29,069
Miscellaneous	0	0	14,636	14,636
	<u>145,650</u>	<u>139,519</u>	<u>14,636</u>	<u>299,805</u>
<b>Personnel</b>				
Salaries	864,976	0	0	864,976
Social Security	63,352	0	0	63,352
Retirement	0	0	0	-
Medical Insurance	64,355	0	0	64,355
Other Insurance	3,987	0	0	3,987
Payroll Services	7,614	0	0	7,614
Staff Development	4,068	0	0	4,068
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	-
	<u>1,008,352</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,008,352</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>1,468,023</b>	<b>293,345</b>	<b>14,636</b>	<b>1,776,004</b>
<b>Net Receipts/Expenses</b>	<b>130,833</b>	<b>152,500</b>	<b>34,075</b>	<b>317,407</b>
<b>Prior Year Funds</b>	<b>242,605</b>	<b>136,416</b>	<b>2,109,492</b>	<b>2,488,513</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>373,437</b>	<b>288,916</b>	<b>2,143,567</b>	<b>2,805,920</b>

## Trustee Education

**NEW** – 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 -

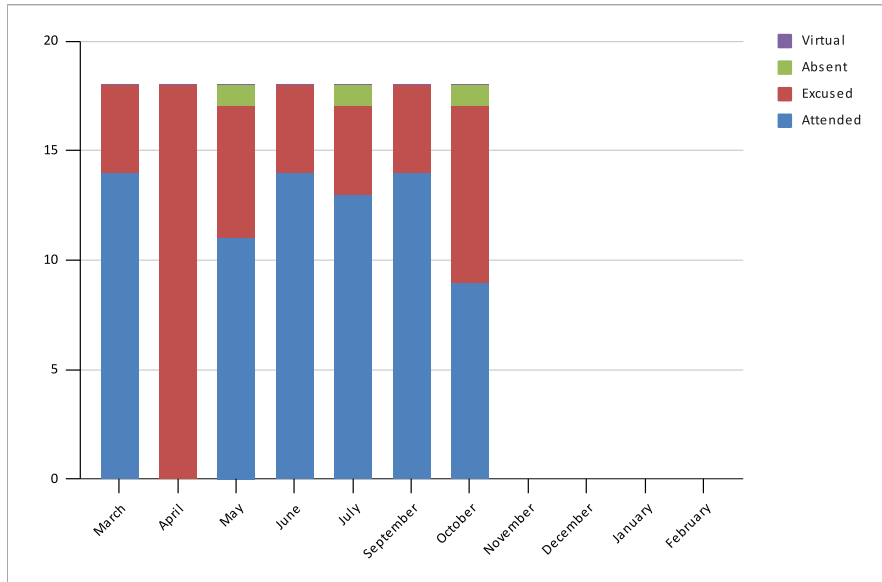
<https://www.nyc.gov/site/cchr/law/sexual-harassment-training.page>

A self-paced training is also available – contact Chris to receive the link.

Pre-recorded Education Opportunities for 2024

- 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\\_RtTwqkH2bNgVIcb1pWaTSa7dZRfPbJ&feature=shared](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLd_RtTwqkH2bNgVIcb1pWaTSa7dZRfPbJ&feature=shared)
- Pre-recorded videos from Trustee Handbook Club discussion series from WebJunction
  - <https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/webjunction/index.html>

Trustee Attendance



Trustee Attendance

	Attended	Excused	Absent	Virtual
March	14	4	0	0
April		18		
May	11	6	1	
June	14	4	0	
July	13	4	1	
September	14	4	0	
October	9	8	1	
November				
December				
January				
February				

**Trustee Committees**

**Executive**

Kirstin Bucci (Chair), Lina Eroh, Katie Vernance, Jan Kelsey, Kathleen Riegelhaupt

**Building**

Emilie Reddoch (Chair), Jill Macvicar, Kathleen Riegelhaupt

**Finance**

Katie Vernance (Chair), Kathleen Riegelhaupt, Maria Seiler, Jaclyn Shanahan

**Strategic Planning**

Nicole Cunningham (Chair), Matt Anderson, Meghan Monaghan, Lizzie Parks, Kathleen Riegelhaupt

**Kid's Room Committee**

Lina Eroh (Co-Chair), Georgia Dyer (Co-Chair), Jan Kelsey, Kathleen Riegelhaupt, Katie Vernance, Jill MacVicar, Emilie Reddoch, Sarah Wise Miller (Nicole Cunningham, Lizzie Parks Ad-hoc)

**Development**

Lina Eroh (Co-Chair), Jaclyn Shanahan (Co-Chair), Whitney Whipple

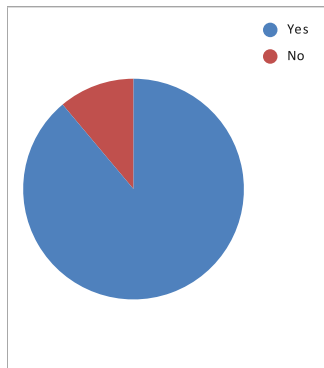
**Nominating**

Emilie Reddoch (Chair), Jackie Cohen, Meghan Monaghan

**Policy**

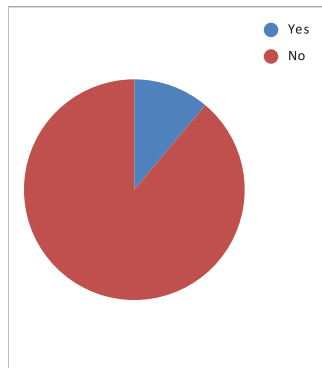
Shelley Huber (Chair)

Conflict of Interest



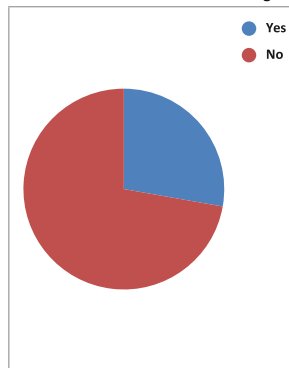
Yes 16  
No 2

Trustee Education



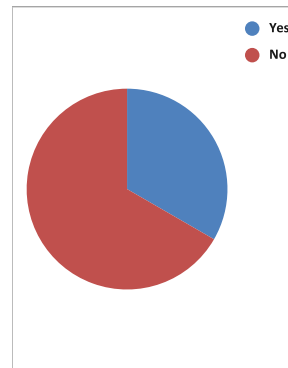
Yes 2  
No 16

Trustee Giving



Yes 5  
No 13

Sexual Harrassment



Yes 6  
No 12

## 2025 Board Meeting Schedule

As a follow-up on trustee engagement and participation, there was a question about a modified meeting schedule. The goal would be to encourage attendance through fewer meetings, and increase committee participation.

The library bylaws require meetings no less than quarterly, and the state guidelines are the same.

### Traditional Schedule

January 28  
February 13 – Annual Meeting at 7 pm (Thursday)  
March 25  
April 22  
May 20  
June 24  
July 22  
September 30  
October 28  
November 18  
December 16

### Modified Schedule

Jan 28 - Approve fund transfer for capital, approve financials for audit  
Feb 13 - annual Meeting  
March 25 - welcome new trustees  
May 20 - Approve Audit, empower budget, approve NYS annual report  
September 30 - Approve 990, management reviews, approve NYS construction application  
October 28 - Annual Campaign update, budget prep  
December 16 - final budget updates

## Director's Report

### LIBRARY OPERATIONS:

- Budget
  - Presented 2025 funding request to the City
- Strategic Planning
  - Planned year-end review of strategic goal progress with library departments

### FUNDRAISING, OUTREACH & COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

- Annual Campaign
  - Prepared second mailing for December
  - Reviewed Not Yet Given and Lapsed Friends lists
- Community Relations
  - Hosted RFRR Spelling Bee
- Fundraising
  - Met with incoming Auxiliary Board presidents to plan for 2025 fundraisers
  - Met with Freewill to discuss anonymous bequest and user platform for planned giving

### BUILDING & GROUNDS:

- Scheduled holiday decorating with Little Garden Club of Rye
- Completed fire system repairs with W and M Fire
- Winterized sprinkler system
- Conducted building tour with new cleaning company

### STAFF & PERSONNEL

- Extended offer to new part time building manager

## **2025 Holiday Closing Schedule**

Wednesday, January 1 – New Year’s Day  
Monday, January 20 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
Monday, February 17 – President’s Day  
Sunday, April 20 – Easter Sunday  
Sunday, May 25 – Memorial Day  
Monday, May 26 – Memorial Day  
Friday, July 4 – Independence Day  
Sunday, August 31 – Labor Day  
Monday, September 1 – Labor Day  
Thursday, November 27 – Thanksgiving  
Wednesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve  
Thursday, December 25 – Christmas Day  
Wednesday, December 31 – New Year’s Eve (Close at 4 pm)

## Adult Services

### PROGRAMMING:

- Senior Law Day Collaborative & WLS - Event @ County Center & Monthly Webinar
- Solo Aging - Practical Planning & Resources
- Autumnal Centerpiece Crafting Program

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- **Strategic Priority 1: Independent Reading Services**
  - Library Book Groups - Cookbook Book Club, Current Events Book Club, Rye Readers Book Group, Thursday Afternoon Book Club (hybrid), Friday Morning Virtual Book Club (virtual)
- **Strategic Priority 4: Community Interest Advancement**
  - Partnered with Rye Historical Society - Native Americans in Rye
  - Partnered with Rye Youth Council - Inside Scoop on Social Media
  - Provided meeting/program/rental space for: RAISE, Lion's Club, Acorns to Oak, Waters Edge Annual Meeting

### SPACE BOOKINGS

- Local History Room – 51
- Left Study Room – 39
- Right Study Room - 45

### ONE ON ONE APPOINTMENTS

- Notary Appointments – 9
- Technology Training - 11

## Teen Services

### PROGRAMMING AND DISPLAYS:

- We had another 14 at a movie night, which is a pleasantly surprising outlier – movie nights have been scheduled based on long weekends or vacations during the school year as a low stakes event since attendance is so hit or miss on those dates in the past.
- The Chess Tournament had 8 kids participate with their parents watching on, all competitors were middle school age despite the high school club encouraging its members to compete.
- Book displays highlighting tween and YA cozy reads for autumn have been put up
- International Snack Club continues to be popular with 18-24 kids attending now that school is back in session
- The Volunteer Club and the Teen Advisory Club will be combined into one for December and renamed “Crafting for a Cause” to see if we can get more kids interested in participating for community service.
- The Nintendo Switch is also in regular use after school, and we are seeing 12-30 kids on weekdays depending on the day.

### Strategic Goals - #1 Independent Reading

- Working with school teachers on curated reading lists for class assignments to increase reading – currently hosting the Climate Assignment with Dr. Haiken’s class

### Materials

- Board games continue to circulate well though pieces can and do still go missing in the library as patrons are able to pull and play the games directly from the shelf without checking them out.
- Ordering for books, manga, and graphic novels continues with pre-orders 3-6 months in advance where possible, and an evaluation system for B&T’s efficacy in delivering our orders is in the works.
- Weeding of fiction was completed earlier this month which showed 91% of the collection was circulating/not eligible for weeding. The next one is planned for Winter 2025.



## Children's Services

### Community Interest Advancement

- Our story programs continue for all of our youngest patrons. Tales for Tots on Monday, Robert the Guitar Guy on Tuesday mornings, Wiggle Giggle on Wednesdays, Bilingual Music on Thursdays, and Creative Movement Storytime on Fridays. All are well attended.  
Tuesdays at 4pm is Sensory Storytime. It encourages movement, participation, and uses props for experiential learning. The storytime has been slow to start and very few kids have been attending.
- We have had STEM Sparks Boxes on Saturdays have been drawing visitors occasionally. The boxes are filled with fun STEM activities for preschoolers and change monthly. November's box is woodland creature themed.
- Crafty Kids on Wed/Thurs and Cooking with Kids on bi-monthly Mondays are both well attended. Crafty Kids will be transitioning in the new year to one day a week instead of two for kids in Kindergarten-2nd grade. We will be introducing a new craft program for 3rd-5th graders monthly on a Friday afternoon.

### Independent Reading and Reading Drop-off Prevention

- We are exploring new programming strategies, as bookclubs have struggled to find their audiences

### Outreach

- We are working with Barbara Mehlman, the school librarian at Milton Elementary School to begin brainstorming for a big 5th grade research unit that will take place next spring. The library will be involved in helping gather source materials for any child that needs it.

## **Annual Campaign / Development**

### 2024 Be a Friend Campaign

The Annual Campaign received 559 gifts from 494 donors, including 117 new members. The 2023 campaign had 427 gifts from 392 donors, including 56 new donors.

We are at \$155,441, or 62% of the campaign goal.

There will be a meet and greet November 20th with a former Rye resident, Margot Clark-Junkins.

The holiday open house is planned for Saturday, December 14th. Instead of a general community open house, this year's plan is to do a Friends Holiday Open House, with caroling, hot cocoa storytime, crafts, and holiday music. It will be from 4 to 6 pm.

A mailer to all postal patrons will be going out the week of December 1<sup>st</sup>, and there will be an add in the Rye Record November 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## **Finance – 2001 – 2025 Funding Overview**

On average, over the last 26 years, the difference between core costs (personnel and building operations) and city funding is \$100,000.

Based on the numbers from various City budget presentations, the library is between .83% to .94% of the total average tax bill for a household from 2016 to 2024. For the library to be at 1% of the tax bill in 2024, the library portion would be \$278. The average tax bill would increase from \$27,786 to \$27,832. The library would have received \$1,659,000 in city funding. In 2024, the core costs totaled \$1,529,000.

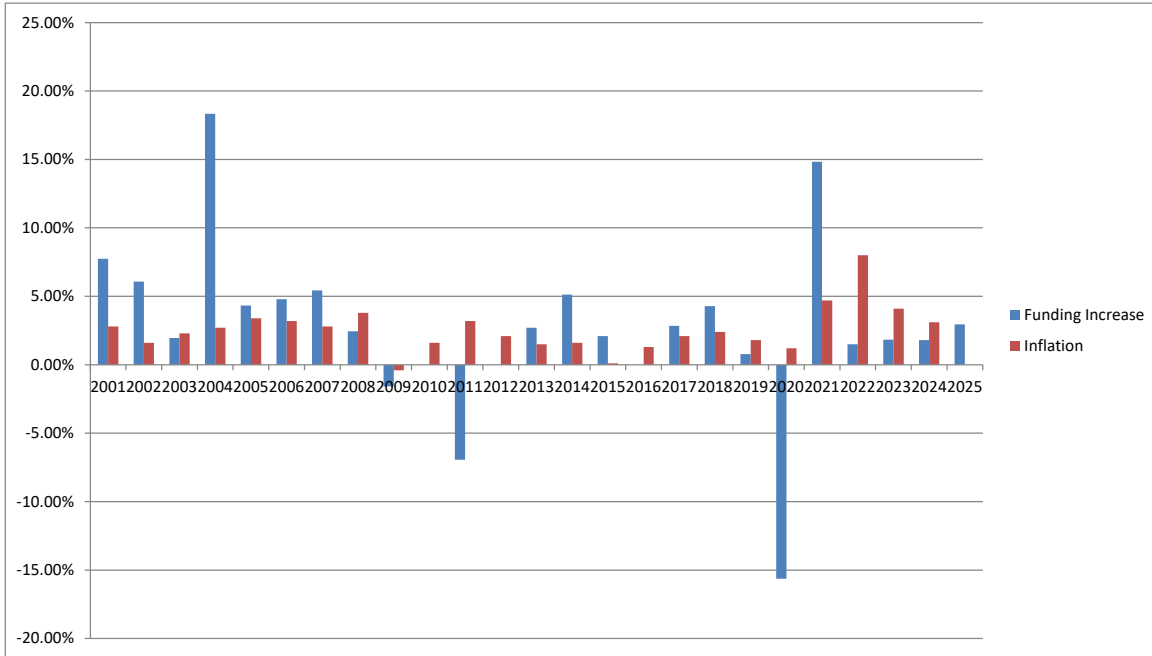
In 2025, the library will be .81% of the average tax bill. At 1 %, the average tax bill would increase from \$30,220 to \$30,276. The library would receive \$1,751,845. Core costs in 2025 are projected to be \$1,596,219.

There are a few years where the city funding covered more than the core costs of the library, but that only occurred in 3 of the last 25 years. Generally, the funding gap is between 3% and 11% of activities.

2023 Peer Library Comparisons

	Hours	Public Support	Public Support Per Capita	Population
Bronxville	2,536	\$1,371,668 19th	\$206.08 1st	6,656 31st
Chappaqua	3,296	\$3,431,254 7th	\$203.89 2nd	16,829 19th
Harrison	4,988	\$2,793,829 10th	\$99.01 14th	28,218 11th
Larchmont	2,882	\$2,310,166 12th	\$118.59 10th	19,480 16th
Lewisboro	2,340	\$495,806 34th	\$40.42 36th	12,265 23rd
Montrose	3,269	\$1,436,392 17th	\$85.23 20th	16,854 18th
North Castle (Armonk)	4,888	\$1,633,787 21st	\$131.67 8th	12,408 22nd
Pelham	2,288	\$755,219 29th	\$57.75 30th	13,078 21th
Rye	3,848	\$1,360,000 20th	\$81.97 22nd	16,592 20th
	Average - 2922		Average - \$96.03	

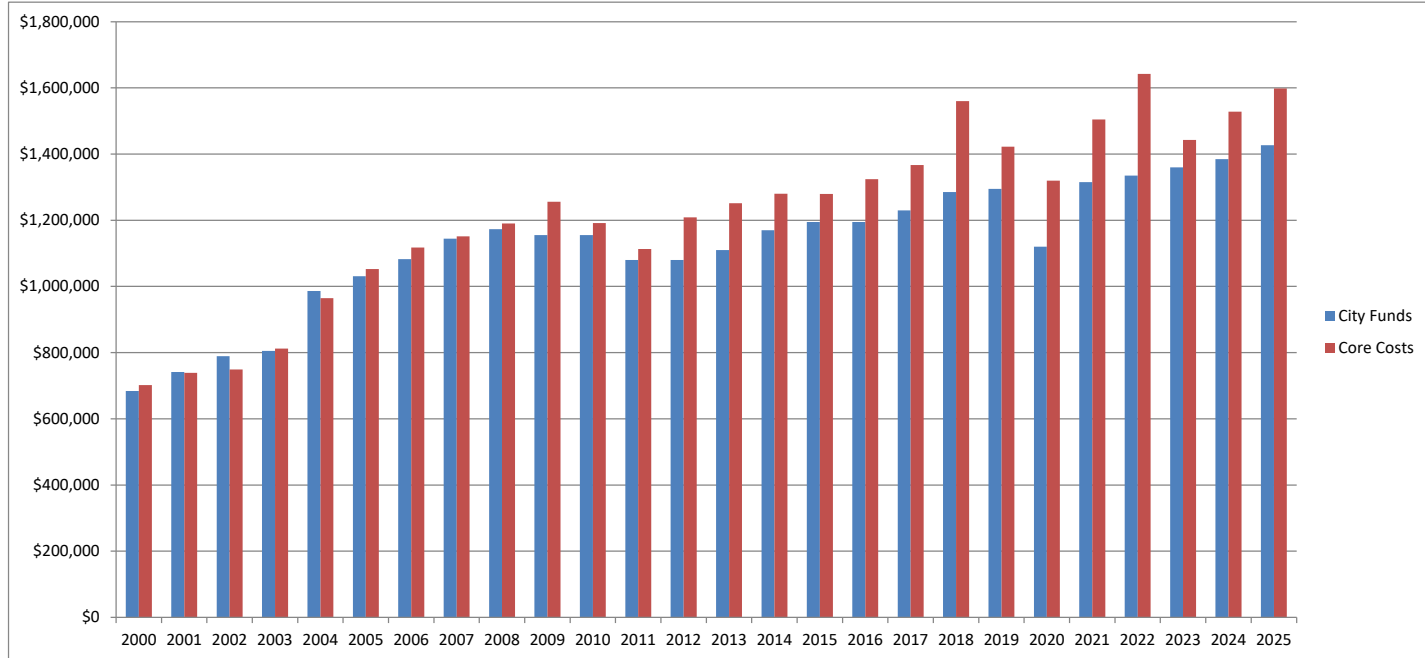
Public Support vs Inflation



	Funding Increase	Inflation
2001	7.74%	2.8%
2002	6.08%	1.6%
2003	1.96%	2.3%
2004	18.34%	2.7%
2005	4.33%	3.4%
2006	4.79%	3.2%
2007	5.43%	2.8%
2008	2.44%	3.8%
2009	-1.57%	-0.4%
2010	0.00%	1.6%
2011	-6.94%	3.2%
2012	0.00%	2.1%
2013	2.70%	1.5%
2014	5.13%	1.6%
2015	2.09%	0.1%
2016	0.00%	1.3%
2017	2.85%	2.1%
2018	4.28%	2.4%
2019	0.77%	1.8%
2020	-15.63%	1.2% *1
2021	14.83%	4.7% *2
2022	1.50%	8.0%
2023	1.84%	4.1%
2024	1.81%	3.1%
2025	2.94%	

\*1 Covid decrease  
\*2 City restored covid funding

City Funding vs Core Costs



	City Funds	Core Costs	Difference	Difference
2000	\$684,000	\$702,107	(\$18,107)	-3%
2001	\$741,390	\$738,660	\$2,730	0%
2002	\$789,390	\$749,296	\$40,094	5%
2003	\$805,177	\$812,290	(\$7,113)	-1%
2004	\$986,000	\$964,306	\$21,694	2%
2005	\$1,030,580	\$1,052,736	(\$22,156)	-2%
2006	\$1,082,395	\$1,117,529	(\$35,134)	-3%
2007	\$1,144,570	\$1,151,366	(\$6,796)	-1%
2008	\$1,173,184	\$1,190,177	(\$16,993)	-1%
2009	\$1,155,000	\$1,256,219	(\$101,219)	-8%
2010	\$1,155,000	\$1,191,515	(\$36,515)	-3%
2011	\$1,080,000	\$1,113,272	(\$33,272)	-3%
2012	\$1,080,000	\$1,209,045	(\$129,045)	-11%
2013	\$1,110,000	\$1,251,304	(\$141,304)	-11%
2014	\$1,170,000	\$1,279,919	(\$109,919)	-9%
2015	\$1,195,000	\$1,279,364	(\$84,364)	-7%
2016	\$1,195,000	\$1,324,185	(\$129,185)	-10%
2017	\$1,230,000	\$1,367,077	(\$137,077)	-10%
2018	\$1,285,000	\$1,560,208	(\$275,208)	-18%
2019	\$1,295,000	\$1,422,308	(\$127,308)	-9%
2020	\$1,120,000	\$1,319,737	(\$199,737)	-15%
2021	\$1,315,000	\$1,504,558	(\$189,558)	-13%
2022	\$1,335,000	\$1,642,116	(\$307,116)	-19%
2023	\$1,360,000	\$1,442,899	(\$82,899)	-6%
2024	\$1,385,000	\$1,528,068	(\$143,068)	-9%
2025	\$1,427,000	\$1,598,186	(\$171,186)	-11%

### **Building and Grounds – Capital Plant / Seawall**

Steve Otis has had several meetings with the City Manager, the YMCA, and the Mayor to discuss their needs for the seawall, and to work to assemble a discretionary funding package that would help all three institutions.

Shelley Mayer's office is confirming a meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.

## **Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee has approached the approved candidates, and they have confirmed their interest in serving on the Board of Trustees as the Class of 2028.

The Slate for the Class of 2028 is:

Valerie Chuebon\*

Georgia Dyer\*

Shelley Huber

Jan Kelsey

Jennifer McArdle

Megan Monaghan

Emilie Reddoch

Duncan Sibson\*

Jim Steintal\*

Emily Tisdale\*

\*denotes new trustee

The Slate of Officers for 2025 are:

President – Lina Eroh

Vice President – Georgia Dyer

Secretary – Jan Kelsey

Treasurer – Katie Vernace

**Action: The Board approve the class of 2028**

**Action: The Board approve the slate of officers for 2025**



## Mission Moments

The Annual Campaign has started! Become a Friend of the Rye Free Reading Room. Friends support FREE access to information and resources for all and promotes literacy, culture, and community connections. Friends get exclusive access to purchase Novel Night tickets, invitations to author meet and greets before the public program, early access to the library book sale, fee-free art exhibits, reduced price meeting room, and more. Make a donation in any amount at <https://friends.ryelibrary.org>

### Notable Activities

Tuesdays at 4 pm : After School Sensory Storytime

An interactive literacy exploration program for all ages and their caregivers. This program will encourage sensory play and will also include a visual schedule, sensory toys, and interactive picture books.

Thursday, Nov 7 at 6:30 pm : Autumnal Centerpiece

Join us to create a lovely autumnal centerpiece for your holiday table that can be used for years to come. The library will supply the materials, you supply the creativity. Registration required.

Monday, Nov 11: Library Spelling Bee for Middle School and High School

Sunday, Nov 17 at 12:30 pm – Mark Schenker lecture : T. S Eliot

Most of us are familiar with various lines written by Eliot, but how many of us know what these lines (not to mention the rest of the poem) mean? Mark will unravel the meaning of two of the most important works of this poet, who is name is synonymous with modernism in poetry. If you are not sure what the term “modernism signifies,” Mark will likely explain that as well.

Wed, Nov 20 at 7:00 pm – Read in Rye : Margot Clark-Junkins

Experience an "as it happened" narrative of World War II through Sidney A Olson's mostly unpublished and unedited dispatches. Margot Clark-Junkins guides readers through Olson's journey, highlighting the tremendous work of war correspondents and delivering an eyewitness account of 6 months across the European Theater. Copies will be available for purchase and signing. Friends Reception at 6:30 pm