
**September 29, 2026
Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda**

1. Roll Call
2. Public Comment
3. Consent Items (Attachments, VOTE)
 - a. June 2026 minutes - pg. 2
 - b. June 2026 financials - pg. 5
 - c. July 2026 financials – pg. 10
 - d. August 2026 financials – pg. 15
 - e. Approval of New Auxiliary Board Members – pg. 20
4. President's Report
 - a. Education - pg. 21
5. Information Items
 - a. Staff Reports (Attachments)
 - i. Director's Report - pg. 22
 - a. 2nd Quarter Statistics – pg. 23
 - b. WLS Free Direct Access Plan – pg. 25 (Attachment, VOTE)
 - ii. Adult Report - pg. 31
 - iii. Teen Report - pg. 32
 - iv. Children's Report - pg. 33
 - b. Auxiliary Board
6. Board Discussion (Attachments)
 - a. Building – pg. 34
 - b. Finance
 - i. 2027 budget (attachment, VOTE) – pg. 35
 - c. Strategic Planning – pg. 37
7. Mission Moments – pg. 38
8. New Business
9. Executive Session

Next meeting dates: Tuesday, October 27 – 7:30 pm
 Tuesday, December 15 – 7:30 pm

Notable dates: Card Sign Up event – Wednesday, September 30 – 7 pm
 Budget Workshop – November 10 / 16 – 7 pm
 Spelling Bee – November 11
 Holiday Open House – December 19 – 4 to 6 pm

Minutes of the June , 2026 RFRR Board Meeting

Trustees: Lina Eroh, Georgia Dyer, Jan Kelsey, Val Chuebon, John Cocke, Nicole Cunningham, Stephanie Larsen, Joe Loruso, Jennifer McArdle, Jill MacVicar, Diane Martin, Kathleen Riegelhaupt, Jaclyn Shanahan, Duncan Sibson, Jim Steinthal, Meredythe Ryan, Bettina Scott Funk

Lina Eroh began the meeting at 7:32. No one from the public was present.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda contained the minutes of the May 2026 board meeting and the May 2026 financial statements. Georgia made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Emily seconded. All approved.

President's Report

Lina reported that Chris had done a great job with the presentation to the City Council. It was very well received. There were no questions from the Council. She then reminded the trustees about the two hour education requirement plus the sexual harassment prevention training.

Staff Reports

Director's Report

Chris reported that the 15 minute parking along Library Lane is being eliminated because of safety concerns. He pointed out that after 5:00 PM the city employee parking area is available for general parking. The 2027 budget process has started. The library will be closed in the morning of July 14 for staff training.

Adult Services

Catherine reported that the Summer Reading Program kicked off with a Dinosaur Scavenger Hunt. There were 205 people at the event. So far 21 adults, 13 pre-K, 150 kids, 48 teens have signed up. Adults get a raffle ticket for every bingo they complete on their card or electronically. The program with the author Christopher Beha had 40 people in attendance. Music Mondays, live music in the evening on the Village Green, will begin in July.

Teen Services

Catherine reported that the library had a table at the Rye Town Pride event. STEM boxes for teens will be available starting in July.

Children's Services

Catherine reported that all the summer reading books are now on the shelves. There is a weekly quiet reading program for kids in the meeting room. Learnique has been doing a great job in the Discovery Zone.

Auxiliary Board

Meredythe reported that Vehicle Fair was a huge success with 3,100 people attending. It raised \$55,000. The Board is now working on Novel Night. The ticketing plan has been set. It will open up on July 8. They need only one more party. The Book Sale is set for September.

Strategic Planning

Jim reported that the committee has had its first meeting with the LEO Group to walk through the process. They will have check-ins every two weeks. The listening phase will take place in August and September. The survey for that phase is being developed.

Buildings & Grounds

Emilie reported that the committee met to discuss possible new projects such as renovating the other bathrooms or insulating the windows. Chris is looking into solar panels. Chris reported on the need for a HVAC Feasibility Study to ascertain the present condition of the systems and recommendations for replacement. This would include a new boiler, heat pumps and other improvements. The library's current system is approaching end of life so a holistic replacement plan will help the library improve patron comfort, increase resiliency and reduce operating costs. After a discussion of the process, Kathleen made a motion to approve \$15,500 for the HVAC feasibility study. Katie seconded. All approved.

Chris then reported on the plans for upgrading the AV system in the meeting room. Since 2003 the AV system has been added to on a piece by piece basis. The increase of the use of Zoom for presentations has necessitated calling in additional staff for those presentations. A new system would include cameras for recording presentations and a hearing loop or other assistive devices to improve the experience for the hearing impaired. The project would be eligible for NYS Library Construction Grant because of the saving of staff time, assistive hearing technology and hybrid programming. After a discussion, Jim made a motion to authorize the Executive Committee to approve up to \$100,000 in expenses for improvements to the meeting room AV system as part of the 2026 NYS Construction Grant application. Kathleen seconded. All approved.

Chris is meeting with the architect next week about possible alterations to the mezzanine for a 'tween space and the teen room.

Finance

Val reported that the audit process had gone smoothly. We had a healthy audit with no major concerns. The usual discussion of segregation of duties and cyber security were raised by the auditors. The library's cyber security is controlled in large part by WLS. She noted that the library spends \$.83 of each dollar on programs and services. Val moved to accept the 2025 financial statement and audit. Jim seconded. All approved.

Val then presents the 2025 Form 990. Jan moved that the Board approve the 2025 Form 990. Jaclyn seconded. All approved.

Mission Moments

Chris reported that the Saturday Sewing Circle will be back. On September 30 there will be a program called "Trashy Good: Food, Fizz and Friends" with J.M. Hirsch. He is the author of *Freezer Door Cocktails*.

New Business

Lina reported that the Board will use an updated process for executive session for performance reviews this year. The Executive Committee will synthesize the performance surveys and present recommendations to the Board in executive session.

There being no further business, Lina called for a motion to adjourn. Katie so moved and Georgia seconded. All approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37.

Action : The Board approve the June meeting minutes

June Financials

June financials reflect a standard month for income.

Expenses are as expected.

In contracted services, it reflects \$5,000 to NCP contracting for repairing wood rot on the south facing windowsills.

Insurance reflects the flood insurance renewal, which is a 17% increase over last year.

There were two months of medical coverage reflected in the medical insurance line. One employee has opted into the medical plan, and so we will see that increase by roughly \$835 a month. It won't be an issue for this year with Catherine's departure, and will be incorporated into the 2027 budget.

The NYSLRS estimated pension came in \$5,000 below budget, but will not be finalized until billing occurs in October.

Action : The Board accept the June financial statements

Rye Free Reading Room
Income and Expense Report
For 6 Months Ending June 30, 2026

	Current Month 2026	2026 YTD Actual	2026 YTD Budget	2026 Budget
Income				
City of Rye	\$ -	\$ 831,500	\$ 831,500	\$ 1,663,000
Annual Campaign	\$ 4,698	\$ 43,407	\$ 140,000	\$ 280,000
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 1,901	\$ 13,925	\$ 17,500	\$ 35,000
Osborn Branch Library	\$ 5,105	\$ 30,917	\$ 26,533	\$ 53,066
Auxiliary Board Transfer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,000	\$ 80,000
Endowment Transfer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 110,000
	<u>\$ 11,704</u>	<u>\$ 919,749</u>	<u>\$ 1,055,533</u>	<u>\$ 2,221,066</u>
Expense				
Library Materials				
Books	\$ 4,149	\$ 43,294	\$ 49,443	\$ 98,885
Audio Visual	\$ 404	\$ 1,691	\$ 12,970	\$ 25,940
Periodicals	\$ 2,009	\$ 6,548	\$ 6,450	\$ 12,900
Programs	\$ 1,395	\$ 9,075	\$ 6,750	\$ 13,500
Ebooks/ Binding	\$ 14,424	\$ 24,202	\$ 43,000	\$ 86,000
	<u>\$ 22,381</u>	<u>\$ 84,810</u>	<u>\$ 118,613</u>	<u>\$ 237,225</u>
Library Operations				
Supplies	\$ 15	\$ 15,039	\$ 7,635	\$ 15,270
Equipment & Systems - New	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,000
Equipment & Systems - Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,250	\$ 4,500
Automated Systems	\$ 990	\$ 42,648	\$ 47,625	\$ 95,250
Telephone	\$ 418	\$ 4,269	\$ 3,500	\$ 7,000
Postage	\$ 963	\$ 4,927	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,000
Printing & Publicity	\$ 2,267	\$ 18,301	\$ 15,000	\$ 30,000
Auditing	\$ -	\$ 23,633	\$ 12,500	\$ 25,000
Legal Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,000
Interest	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Transfer to Designated Account	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Capital Projects - Operating	\$ 15,500	\$ 15,500	\$ 30,000	\$ 60,000
Miscellaneous	\$ 943	\$ 4,344	\$ 3,900	\$ 7,800
	<u>\$ 21,095</u>	<u>\$ 128,661</u>	<u>\$ 130,410</u>	<u>\$ 260,820</u>
Building Operations				
Heat	\$ -	\$ 17,201	\$ 13,500	\$ 27,000
Light & Power	\$ 3,653	\$ 16,594	\$ 17,750	\$ 35,500
Water & Sewer	\$ 255	\$ 7,790	\$ 5,250	\$ 10,500
Fixtures, Furnishings & Equipment	\$ -	\$ 3,474	\$ 2,500	\$ 5,000
Building Supplies	\$ 804	\$ 4,255	\$ 6,000	\$ 12,000
Contracted Services	\$ 7,305	\$ 26,655	\$ 18,500	\$ 37,000
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ -	\$ 15,469	\$ 9,000	\$ 18,000
Insurance	\$ 11,495	\$ 26,703	\$ 18,925	\$ 37,850
Capital Projects Fund Transfer	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 100,000
Miscellaneous	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -
	<u>\$ 23,612</u>	<u>\$ 218,240</u>	<u>\$ 141,425</u>	<u>\$ 282,850</u>
Personnel				
Salaries	\$ 86,146	\$ 555,189	\$ 569,933	\$ 1,139,866
Social Security	\$ 6,888	\$ 44,133	\$ 43,869	\$ 87,737
Retirement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 74,731	\$ 149,462
Medical Insurance	\$ 12,536	\$ 44,288	\$ 46,817	\$ 93,634
Other Insurance	\$ -	\$ (1,457)	\$ 8,000	\$ 16,000
Payroll Services	\$ 679	\$ 4,649	\$ 3,500	\$ 7,000
Staff Development	\$ 307	\$ 3,320	\$ 2,500	\$ 5,000
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<u>\$ 106,556</u>	<u>\$ 650,122</u>	<u>\$ 749,350</u>	<u>\$ 1,498,699</u>
Total Income	<u>\$ 11,704</u>	<u>\$ 919,749</u>	<u>\$ 1,055,533</u>	<u>\$ 2,221,066</u>
Total Expense	<u>\$ 173,644</u>	<u>\$ 1,081,833</u>	<u>\$ 1,139,797</u>	<u>\$ 2,279,594</u>
Net Receipts (Expense)	<u>\$ (161,941)</u>	<u>\$ (162,084)</u>	<u>\$ (84,264)</u>	<u>\$ (58,528)</u>

**Rye Free Reading Room
Annual Campaign
June 2026 YTD**

<i>Donations to the Current Annual Campaign</i>		2025	2026
Donations received & deposited in	JAN	18,105	9,264
	FEB	14,900	10,339
	MAR	2,295	2,282
	APR	2,279	3,701
	MAY	52,865	1,756
	JUN	11,260	4,698
	JUL	53,367	-
	AUG	6,509	-
	SEP	15,672	-
	OCT	41,740	-
	NOV	55,613	-
	DEC	93,200	-
	Total	367,805	32,040
Donations to <i>Previous or Subsequent</i> Annual Campaigns			
Donations to <i>prior</i> Annual Campaigns		20,931	11,367
Donations to the <i>subsequent</i> Annual Campaign		-	-
<i>Sub-total</i>		20,931	11,367

Rye Free Reading Room
Endowment Report
June 2026

Endowment Inflows/Outflows:	YTD 2026	YTD 2025	YTD 2024	YTD 2023
Beg of Period (Market Value)	2,335,519	2,221,126	2,160,398	2,109,492
Expenses	(7,944)	(15,603)	(15,538)	(14,636)
Transfer to/from Other Funds	0	(100,000)	(101,387)	(105,000)
Interest & Dividend Income	21,814	72,776	60,868	53,480
Appreciation	197,319	157,220	116,785	117,063
End of Period Bal (Market Value)	2,546,708	2,335,519	2,221,126	2,160,398
Endowment Performance	9.04%	9.65%	7.50%	7.39%
Return of S&P 500	10.21%	17.88%	25.02%	26.29%
Return of Barclays Bloomberg Aggregate Bond Index	0.62%	7.30%	1.25%	5.53%

Silvercrest:		YTD 2026	YTD 2025	YTD 2024	YTD 2023
Cash & Equivalents	1%	30,855	66,153	111,218	(27,006)
Fixed Income	34%	784,943	766,991	669,740	760,448
Equities	56%	1,280,836	1,072,653	1,157,022	1,166,785
Gold	6%	147,394	144,945	24,213	19,117
Other	2%	44,586	43,469	31,358	30,573
Silvercrest Total	100%	2,288,613	2,094,210	1,993,551	1,949,918

Endowment Breakdown at:

	YTD 2026	Permanently Restricted & Board Designated	Temp Restricted	Total
Shea		41,680	73,147	114,827
Flores		76,650	554	77,204
Balf		27,390	38,674	66,064
Silvercrest		745,086	1,543,527	2,288,613
\$		890,806	1,655,902	2,546,708

For 6 Months Ending June 30, 2026

	Unrestricted (Operating)	Temp. Restricted (Designated)	Endowment and Board Restricted	Combined
Income				
City of Rye	\$ 831,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 831,500
Annual Campaign	43,407	0	0	43,407
Contribution	-	77,741	0	77,741
Grants	-	0	0	-
Osborn Branch Library	30,917	0	0	30,917
Income from Invested and Equity	-	6,896	21,814	28,710
Miscellaneous	13,925	0	0	13,925
Transfer: Auxiliary to Operating	-	0	0	-
Transfer: Operating to Designated	-	0	0	-
Transfer: Operating to Cap Projects	-100,000	100,000	0	-
	819,749	184,637	21,814	1,026,200
Transfer: Auxiliary to Operating	0	0	0	-
Transfer: Endowment to Operating	0	0	0	-
Appreciation/Depreciation		0	197,319	197,319
Total Funds	819,749	184,637	219,134	1,223,520
Expense				
Library Materials				
Books	43,294	0	0	43,294
Audio Visual	1,691	0	0	1,691
Periodicals	6,548	2,000	0	8,548
Programs	9,075	52,384	0	61,459
Online Resources	24,202	0	0	24,202
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	-
	84,810	54,384	0	139,194
Library Operations				
Supplies	15,039	6,651	0	21,690
Equipment & Systems - New	0	0	0	-
Equipment & Systems - Maintenance	0	0	0	-
Automated Systems	42,648	27,021	0	69,669
Telephone	4,269	0	0	4,269
Postage	4,927	0	0	4,927
Printing & Publicity	18,301	0	0	18,301
Auditing	23,633	0	0	23,633
Interest	0	0	0	-
Legal Services	0	0	0	-
Miscellaneous	4,344	0	0	4,344
	113,161	33,672	0	146,833
Building Operations				
Heat	17,201	0	0	17,201
Light & Power	16,594	0	0	16,594
Water & Sewer	7,790	0	0	7,790
Fixtures, Furnishings & Equipment	3,474	27,602	0	31,076
Building Supplies	4,255	0	0	4,255
Contracted Services	26,655	29,527	0	56,182
Repairs & Maintenance	15,469	0	0	15,469
Insurance	26,703	0	0	26,703
Miscellaneous	100	0	7,944	8,044
	118,240	57,129	7,944	183,313
Personnel				
Salaries	555,189	0	0	555,189
Social Security	44,133	0	0	44,133
Retirement	0	0	0	-
Medical Insurance	44,288	0	0	44,288
Other Insurance	-1,457	0	0	(1,457)
Payroll Services	4,649	0	0	4,649
Staff Development	3,320	0	0	3,320
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	-
	650,122	0	0	650,122
Total Expense	966,333	145,185	7,944	1,119,462
Net Receipts/Expenses	-146,584	39,452	211,190	104,058
Prior Year Funds	407,118	677,714	2,335,519	3,420,350
Balance	260,534	717,166	2,546,708	3,524,408

July Financials

July income reflects two donations received from major donors.

July expenses reflects the second of the two yearly payments to WLS for the automated systems costs.

All other income and expense is within expectations.

Action : The Board accept the July financial statements

Rye Free Reading Room
Income and Expense Report
For 7 Months Ending July 31, 2026

	Current Month 2026	2026 YTD Actual	2026 YTD Budget	2026 Budget
Income				
City of Rye	\$ 831,500	\$ 1,663,000	\$ 1,663,000	\$ 1,663,000
Annual Campaign	\$ 88,027	\$ 131,434	\$ 163,333	\$ 280,000
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 1,748	\$ 16,491	\$ 20,417	\$ 35,000
Osborn Branch Library	\$ 4,588	\$ 31,643	\$ 30,955	\$ 53,066
Auxiliary Board Transfer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 46,667	\$ 80,000
Endowment Transfer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 110,000
	<u>\$ 925,863</u>	<u>\$ 1,842,568</u>	<u>\$ 1,924,372</u>	<u>\$ 2,221,066</u>
Expense				
Library Materials				
Books	\$ 9,354	\$ 52,647	\$ 57,683	\$ 98,885
Audio Visual	\$ 1,012	\$ 2,702	\$ 15,132	\$ 25,940
Periodicals	\$ 895	\$ 7,444	\$ 7,525	\$ 12,900
Programs	\$ 1,014	\$ 10,090	\$ 7,875	\$ 13,500
Ebooks/ Binding	\$ -	\$ 24,202	\$ 50,167	\$ 86,000
	<u>\$ 12,275</u>	<u>\$ 97,085</u>	<u>\$ 138,381</u>	<u>\$ 237,225</u>
Library Operations				
Supplies	\$ 2,454	\$ 11,322	\$ 8,908	\$ 15,270
Equipment & Systems - New	\$ 285	\$ 285	\$ 2,333	\$ 4,000
Equipment & Systems - Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,625	\$ 4,500
Automated Systems	\$ 32,930	\$ 78,578	\$ 55,563	\$ 95,250
Telephone	\$ 968	\$ 5,237	\$ 4,083	\$ 7,000
Postage	\$ -	\$ 4,927	\$ 5,833	\$ 10,000
Printing & Publicity	\$ 940	\$ 19,241	\$ 17,500	\$ 30,000
Auditing	\$ 2,055	\$ 25,688	\$ 14,583	\$ 25,000
Legal Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,167	\$ 2,000
Interest	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Transfer to Designated Account	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Capital Projects - Operating	\$ -	\$ 15,500	\$ 35,000	\$ 60,000
Miscellaneous	\$ 671	\$ 5,015	\$ 4,550	\$ 7,800
	<u>\$ 40,303</u>	<u>\$ 165,793</u>	<u>\$ 152,145</u>	<u>\$ 260,820</u>
Building Operations				
Heat	\$ 107	\$ 17,309	\$ 15,750	\$ 27,000
Light & Power	\$ 4,355	\$ 20,949	\$ 20,708	\$ 35,500
Water & Sewer	\$ -	\$ 7,790	\$ 6,125	\$ 10,500
Fixtures, Furnishings & Equipment	\$ -	\$ 3,474	\$ 2,917	\$ 5,000
Building Supplies	\$ 34	\$ 4,288	\$ 7,000	\$ 12,000
Contracted Services	\$ 1,885	\$ 28,540	\$ 21,583	\$ 37,000
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ -	\$ 15,469	\$ 10,500	\$ 18,000
Insurance	\$ -	\$ 26,703	\$ 22,079	\$ 37,850
Capital Projects Fund Transfer	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 58,333	\$ 100,000
Miscellaneous	\$ 100	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ -
	<u>\$ 6,481</u>	<u>\$ 224,722</u>	<u>\$ 164,996</u>	<u>\$ 282,850</u>
Personnel				
Salaries	\$ 88,355	\$ 645,558	\$ 664,922	\$ 1,139,866
Social Security	\$ 6,705	\$ 50,838	\$ 51,180	\$ 87,737
Retirement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 87,186	\$ 149,462
Medical Insurance	\$ 3,772	\$ 48,060	\$ 54,620	\$ 93,634
Other Insurance	\$ 1,720	\$ 264	\$ 9,333	\$ 16,000
Payroll Services	\$ 713	\$ 5,362	\$ 4,083	\$ 7,000
Staff Development	\$ 582	\$ 3,902	\$ 2,917	\$ 5,000
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<u>\$ 101,847</u>	<u>\$ 753,984</u>	<u>\$ 874,241</u>	<u>\$ 1,498,699</u>
Total Income	<u>\$ 925,863</u>	<u>\$ 1,842,568</u>	<u>\$ 1,924,372</u>	<u>\$ 2,221,066</u>
Total Expense	<u>\$ 160,906</u>	<u>\$ 1,241,584</u>	<u>\$ 1,329,763</u>	<u>\$ 2,279,594</u>
Net Receipts (Expense)	<u>\$ 764,958</u>	<u>\$ 600,984</u>	<u>\$ 594,609</u>	<u>\$ (58,528)</u>

**Rye Free Reading Room
Annual Campaign
July 2026 YTD**

<i>Donations to the Current Annual Campaign</i>		2025	2026
Donations received & deposited in	JAN	18,105	9,264
	FEB	14,900	10,339
	MAR	2,295	2,282
	APR	2,279	3,701
	MAY	52,865	1,756
	JUN	11,260	4,698
	JUL	53,367	88,027
	AUG	6,509	-
	SEP	15,672	-
	OCT	41,740	-
	NOV	55,613	-
	DEC	93,200	-
	Total	367,805	120,067
Donations to <i>Previous or Subsequent</i> Annual Campaigns			
Donations to <i>prior</i> Annual Campaigns		20,931	11,367
Donations to the <i>subsequent</i> Annual Campaign		-	-
<i>Sub-total</i>		20,931	11,367

Rye Free Reading Room
Endowment Report
July 2026

Endowment Inflows/Outflows:	YTD 2026	YTD 2025	YTD 2024	YTD 2023
Beg of Period (Market Value)	2,335,519	2,221,126	2,160,398	2,109,492
Expenses	(12,397)	(15,603)	(15,538)	(14,636)
Transfer to/from Other Funds	0	(100,000)	(101,387)	(105,000)
Interest & Dividend Income	24,626	72,776	60,868	53,480
Appreciation	195,972	157,220	116,785	117,063
End of Period Bal (Market Value)	2,543,720	2,335,519	2,221,126	2,160,398
Endowment Performance	8.91%	9.65%	7.50%	7.39%
Return of S&P 500	10.14%	17.88%	25.02%	26.29%
Return of Barclays Bloomberg Aggregate Bond Index	-0.69%	7.30%	1.25%	5.53%

Silvercrest:		YTD 2026	YTD 2025	YTD 2024	YTD 2023
Cash & Equivalents	1%	21,257	66,153	111,218	(27,006)
Fixed Income	35%	790,984	766,991	669,740	760,448
Equities	56%	1,287,208	1,072,653	1,157,022	1,166,785
Gold	6%	147,710	144,945	24,213	19,117
Other	2%	44,709	43,469	31,358	30,573
Silvercrest Total	100%	2,291,867	2,094,210	1,993,551	1,949,918

Endowment Breakdown at:	YTD 2026	Permanently Restricted & Board Designated	Temp Restricted	Total
Shea		41,680	69,596	111,276
Flores		76,650	(132)	76,518
Balf		27,390	36,670	64,060
Silvercrest		745,086	1,546,781	2,291,867
		\$ 890,806	1,652,914	2,543,720

Rye Free Reading Room- Combined Report
For 7 Months Ending July 31, 2026

	Unrestricted (Operating)	Temp. Restricted (Designated)	Endowment and Board Restricted	Combined
Income				
City of Rye	\$ 1,663,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,663,000
Annual Campaign	131,434	0	0	131,434
Contribution	-	165,247	0	165,247
Grants	-	0	0	-
Osborn Branch Library	31,643	0	0	31,643
Income from Invested and Equity	-	6,896	24,626	31,522
Miscellaneous	16,491	0	0	16,491
Transfer: Auxiliary to Operating	-	0	0	-
Transfer: Operating to Designated	-	0	0	-
Transfer: Operating to Cap Projects	-100,000	100,000	0	-
	1,742,568	272,143	24,626	2,039,337
Transfer: Auxiliary to Operating	0	0	0	-
Transfer: Endowment to Operating	0	0	0	-
Appreciation/Depreciation		0	195,972	195,972
Total Funds	1,742,568	272,143	220,598	2,235,309
Expense				
Library Materials				
Books	52,647	0	0	52,647
Audio Visual	2,702	0	0	2,702
Periodicals	7,444	2,000	0	9,444
Programs	10,090	63,358	0	73,448
Online Resources	24,202	0	0	24,202
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	-
	97,085	65,358	0	162,443
Library Operations				
Supplies	11,322	6,651	0	17,973
Equipment & Systems - New	285	0	0	285
Equipment & Systems - Maintenance	0	0	0	-
Automated Systems	78,578	27,021	0	105,599
Telephone	5,237	0	0	5,237
Postage	4,927	0	0	4,927
Printing & Publicity	19,241	0	0	19,241
Auditing	25,688	0	0	25,688
Interest	0	0	0	-
Legal Services	0	0	0	-
Miscellaneous	5,015	0	0	5,015
	150,293	33,672	0	183,965
Building Operations				
Heat	17,309	0	0	17,309
Light & Power	20,949	0	0	20,949
Water & Sewer	7,790	0	0	7,790
Fixtures, Furnishings & Equipment	3,474	27,602	0	31,076
Building Supplies	4,288	0	0	4,288
Contracted Services	28,540	29,527	0	58,067
Repairs & Maintenance	15,469	0	0	15,469
Insurance	26,703	0	0	26,703
Miscellaneous	200	0	12,397	12,597
	124,722	57,129	12,397	194,248
Personnel				
Salaries	645,558	0	0	645,558
Social Security	50,838	0	0	50,838
Retirement	0	0	0	-
Medical Insurance	48,060	0	0	48,060
Other Insurance	264	0	0	264
Payroll Services	5,362	0	0	5,362
Staff Development	3,902	0	0	3,902
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	-
	753,984	0	0	753,984
Total Expense	1,126,084	156,159	12,397	1,294,640
Net Receipts/Expenses	616,484	115,984	208,201	940,669
Prior Year Funds	407,118	677,714	2,335,519	3,420,350
Balance	1,023,602	793,698	2,543,720	4,361,019

August Financials

August income reflects the \$5K in library state aid funding from NYS in the misc. income line

August expenses show general activity.

Telephone shows as negative due to a timing on the credit card payment for wireless hotspots

Insurance reflects the \$8k quarterly payment for property insurance.

Medical reflects 2 months of premiums to the City due to an invoice timing issue.

Action : The Board accept the August financial statements

Rye Free Reading Room
Income and Expense Report
For 8 Months Ending August 31, 2026

	Current Month 2026	2026 YTD Actual	2026 YTD Budget	2026 Budget
Income				
City of Rye	\$ -	\$ 1,663,000	\$ 1,663,000	\$ 1,663,000
Annual Campaign	\$ 8,335	\$ 139,769	\$ 186,667	\$ 280,000
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 7,316	\$ 23,806	\$ 23,333	\$ 35,000
Osborn Branch Library	\$ 4,248	\$ 35,890	\$ 35,377	\$ 53,066
Auxiliary Board Transfer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,333	\$ 80,000
Endowment Transfer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 110,000
	<u>\$ 19,899</u>	<u>\$ 1,862,465</u>	<u>\$ 1,961,711</u>	<u>\$ 2,221,066</u>
Expense				
Library Materials				
Books	\$ 10,169	\$ 62,816	\$ 65,923	\$ 98,885
Audio Visual	\$ 12,942	\$ 15,644	\$ 17,293	\$ 25,940
Periodicals	\$ -	\$ 7,444	\$ 8,600	\$ 12,900
Programs	\$ 4,725	\$ 14,815	\$ 9,000	\$ 13,500
Ebooks/ Binding	\$ 5,789	\$ 29,990	\$ 57,333	\$ 86,000
	<u>\$ 33,625</u>	<u>\$ 130,709</u>	<u>\$ 158,150</u>	<u>\$ 237,225</u>
Library Operations				
Supplies	\$ 266	\$ 10,774	\$ 10,180	\$ 15,270
Equipment & Systems - New	\$ -	\$ 285	\$ 2,667	\$ 4,000
Equipment & Systems - Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,500
Automated Systems	\$ 5,804	\$ 82,830	\$ 63,500	\$ 95,250
Telephone	\$ (771)	\$ 4,466	\$ 4,667	\$ 7,000
Postage	\$ 983	\$ 5,911	\$ 6,667	\$ 10,000
Printing & Publicity	\$ 4,535	\$ 23,776	\$ 20,000	\$ 30,000
Auditing	\$ -	\$ 25,688	\$ 16,667	\$ 25,000
Legal Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,333	\$ 2,000
Interest	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Transfer to Designated Account	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Capital Projects - Operating	\$ 7,500	\$ 28,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 60,000
Miscellaneous	\$ 447	\$ 5,462	\$ 5,200	\$ 7,800
	<u>\$ 18,764</u>	<u>\$ 187,192</u>	<u>\$ 173,880</u>	<u>\$ 260,820</u>
Building Operations				
Heat	\$ 47	\$ 17,356	\$ 18,000	\$ 27,000
Light & Power	\$ 5,305	\$ 26,254	\$ 23,667	\$ 35,500
Water & Sewer	\$ 347	\$ 8,137	\$ 7,000	\$ 10,500
Fixtures, Furnishings & Equipment	\$ -	\$ 3,474	\$ 3,333	\$ 5,000
Building Supplies	\$ -	\$ 4,288	\$ 8,000	\$ 12,000
Contracted Services	\$ 8,702	\$ 33,794	\$ 24,667	\$ 37,000
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 3,611	\$ 19,080	\$ 12,000	\$ 18,000
Insurance	\$ 8,121	\$ 34,824	\$ 25,233	\$ 37,850
Capital Projects Fund Transfer	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 66,667	\$ 100,000
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ -
	<u>\$ 26,133</u>	<u>\$ 247,407</u>	<u>\$ 188,567</u>	<u>\$ 282,850</u>
Personnel				
Salaries	\$ 95,148	\$ 740,706	\$ 759,911	\$ 1,139,866
Social Security	\$ 7,265	\$ 58,104	\$ 58,491	\$ 87,737
Retirement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 99,641	\$ 149,462
Medical Insurance	\$ 11,653	\$ 59,713	\$ 62,423	\$ 93,634
Other Insurance	\$ -	\$ 264	\$ 10,667	\$ 16,000
Payroll Services	\$ 686	\$ 6,048	\$ 4,667	\$ 7,000
Staff Development	\$ 60	\$ 3,962	\$ 3,333	\$ 5,000
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<u>\$ 114,812</u>	<u>\$ 868,797</u>	<u>\$ 999,133</u>	<u>\$ 1,498,699</u>
Total Income	<u>\$ 19,899</u>	<u>\$ 1,862,465</u>	<u>\$ 1,961,711</u>	<u>\$ 2,221,066</u>
Total Expense	<u>\$ 193,334</u>	<u>\$ 1,434,105</u>	<u>\$ 1,519,729</u>	<u>\$ 2,279,594</u>
Net Receipts (Expense)	<u>\$ (173,436)</u>	<u>\$ 428,361</u>	<u>\$ 441,981</u>	<u>\$ (58,528)</u>

**Rye Free Reading Room
Annual Campaign
August 2026 YTD**

<i>Donations to the Current Annual Campaign</i>		2025	2026
Donations received & deposited in	JAN	18,105	9,264
	FEB	14,900	10,339
	MAR	2,295	2,282
	APR	2,279	3,701
	MAY	52,865	1,756
	JUN	11,260	4,698
	JUL	53,367	88,027
	AUG	6,509	8,335
	SEP	15,672	-
	OCT	41,740	-
	NOV	55,613	-
	DEC	93,200	-
	Total	367,805	128,402
Donations to <i>Previous or Subsequent</i> Annual Campaigns			
Donations to <i>prior</i> Annual Campaigns		20,931	11,367
Donations to the <i>subsequent</i> Annual Campaign		-	-
<i>Sub-total</i>		20,931	11,367

Rye Free Reading Room
Endowment Report
August 2026

Endowment Inflows/Outflows:	YTD 2026	YTD 2025	YTD 2024	YTD 2023
Beg of Period (Market Value)	2,335,519	2,221,126	2,160,398	2,109,492
Expenses	(12,397)	(15,603)	(15,538)	(14,636)
Transfer to/from Other Funds	0	(100,000)	(101,387)	(105,000)
Interest & Dividend Income	27,307	72,776	60,868	53,480
Appreciation	186,813	157,220	116,785	117,063
End of Period Bal (Market Value)	2,537,242	2,335,519	2,221,126	2,160,398
Endowment Performance	8.64%	9.65%	7.50%	7.39%
Return of S&P 500	13.14%	17.88%	25.02%	26.29%
Return of Barclays Bloomberg Aggregate Bond Index	-0.31%	7.30%	1.25%	5.53%

Silvercrest:		YTD 2026	YTD 2025	YTD 2024	YTD 2023
Cash & Equivalents	1%	22,301	66,153	111,218	(27,006)
Fixed Income	35%	787,736	766,991	669,740	760,448
Equities	56%	1,277,592	1,072,653	1,157,022	1,166,785
Gold	7%	151,398	144,945	24,213	19,117
Other	2%	42,712	43,469	31,358	30,573
Silvercrest Total	100%	2,281,739	2,094,210	1,993,551	1,949,918

Endowment Breakdown at:	YTD 2026	Permanently Restricted & Board Designated	Temp Restricted	Total
Shea		41,680	71,915	113,595
Flores		76,650	(102)	76,548
Balf		27,390	37,969	65,359
Silvercrest		745,086	1,536,653	2,281,739
		\$ 890,806	1,646,435	2,537,241

Rye Free Reading Room- Combined Report
For 8 Months Ending August 31, 2026

	Unrestricted (Operating)	Temp. Restricted (Designated)	Endowment and Board Restricted	Combined
Income				
City of Rye	\$ 1,663,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,663,000
Annual Campaign	139,769	0	0	139,769
Contribution	-	270,369	0	270,369
Grants	-	0	0	-
Osborn Branch Library	35,890	0	0	35,890
Income from Invested and Equity	-	6,896	27,307	34,203
Miscellaneous	23,806	0	0	23,806
Transfer: Auxiliary to Operating	-	0	0	-
Transfer: Operating to Designated	-	0	0	-
Transfer: Operating to Cap Projects	-100,000	100,000	0	-
	<u>1,762,465</u>	<u>377,265</u>	<u>27,307</u>	<u>2,167,037</u>
Transfer: Auxiliary to Operating	0	0	0	-
Transfer: Endowment to Operating	0	0	0	-
Appreciation/Depreciation		<u>0</u>	<u>186,813</u>	<u>186,813</u>
Total Funds	1,762,465	377,265	214,120	2,353,850
Expense				
Library Materials				
Books	62,816	0	0	62,816
Audio Visual	15,644	0	0	15,644
Periodicals	7,444	2,000	0	9,444
Programs	14,815	65,934	0	80,749
Online Resources	29,990	0	0	29,990
Miscellaneous	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>-</u>
	130,709	67,934	0	198,643
Library Operations				
Supplies	10,774	6,651	0	17,425
Equipment & Systems - New	285	0	0	285
Equipment & Systems - Maintenance	0	0	0	-
Automated Systems	82,830	5,250	0	88,080
Telephone	4,466	960	0	5,426
Postage	5,911	0	0	5,911
Printing & Publicity	23,776	0	0	23,776
Auditing	25,688	0	0	25,688
Interest	0	0	0	-
Legal Services	0	0	0	-
Miscellaneous	<u>5,462</u>	<u>5,027</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10,489</u>
	159,192	17,888	0	177,080
Building Operations				
Heat	17,356	0	0	17,356
Light & Power	26,254	0	0	26,254
Water & Sewer	8,137	0	0	8,137
Fixtures, Furnishings & Equipment	3,474	27,602	0	31,076
Building Supplies	4,288	0	0	4,288
Contracted Services	33,794	62,599	0	96,393
Repairs & Maintenance	19,080	3,650	0	22,730
Insurance	34,824	0	0	34,824
Miscellaneous	<u>200</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>12,397</u>	<u>12,597</u>
	147,407	93,851	12,397	253,655
Personnel				
Salaries	740,706	0	0	740,706
Social Security	58,104	0	0	58,104
Retirement	0	0	0	-
Medical Insurance	59,713	0	0	59,713
Other Insurance	264	0	0	264
Payroll Services	6,048	0	0	6,048
Staff Development	3,962	0	0	3,962
Miscellaneous	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>-</u>
	868,797	0	0	868,797
Total Expense	1,306,105	179,673	12,397	1,498,175
Net Receipts/Expenses	456,361	197,592	201,723	855,676
Prior Year Funds	<u>407,118</u>	<u>677,714</u>	<u>2,335,519</u>	<u>3,420,350</u>
Balance	863,479	875,306	2,537,242	4,276,026

New Auxiliary Board Members

At the September 16, 2026 Auxiliary Board meeting, members voted in new members to replace those rolling off. The new members are Emily Matheson, Jordan Fontini, Min Souther, Helen Gibney Nutter, Shannon Kelleher, Erica Knowles, and Erin Kennedy. They will begin their service in October 2026 and end in September 2029.

Action : The Board approve the new Auxiliary Board members

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>

Upcoming Trainings

Trustee Handbook Book Club

Thursday, October 29, 5 PM-6:30 PM: *Duties and Responsibilities of Key Officer Roles*

Register at <https://midhudson.libcal.com/event/16210610>

Panel Discussion moderated by Trustee Handbook Co-author Rebekkah Smith Aldrich.

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
- 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
 - Drafted and submitted 2027 funding request to City
 - Reviewed year end spending with business manager
- Strategic Planning
 - Facilitated LEO Group focus group sessions and survey distribution

FUNDRAISING, OUTREACH & COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

- Annual Campaign
 - Completed initial mailing of Annual Campaign 2027 materials
 - Community Relations
 - Attended Read in Rye Elizabeth Wellington Rollins
 - Completed Friends of the Library preview night
- Fundraising
- Completed 2026 Booksale

BUILDING & GROUNDS:

- Submitted 2027 NYS Construction Grant for meeting room improvements
- Worked with architect for tween space

STAFF & PERSONNEL

- Completed AI training for staff
- Launched recruitment for new occasional library assistant
- Launched recruitment for assistant director

2nd Quarter Statistics

The Rye Free Reading Room had a busy second quarter, seeing increased metrics in circulation, programs, door count, and questions answered. Materials added saw a slight decrease, impacted by ordering and staff vacations. Midway through the year, the library should see an increase in usage over 2025.

As expected, digital usage continued to grow as investment increased, though only slightly. Hoopla changes at WLS impacted overall digital usage, though Overdrive usage has continued to grow. Usage of NYTimes has also increased, but more slowly than compared to 2025.

Programming saw a spike compared to last year, driven by the new program offering in the Discovery Zone – roughly 20 programs a month, with 20 program participants. Adult programs also saw a boost with large scale events such as the Rye Sustainability Reception.

Door count increase relates in part to Vehicle Fair, but overall count is up even in comparison to attendance last year.

Staff vacations and a few vendor delays had an impact on materials delivery. Compared to 2025, we did not add as many unknown items, which included puzzles and books to support the Bias inside Us exhibit.

Rye Free Reading Room Lending Services			Statistical Summary																
Circulation to Patrons			Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25		Apr 26	May 26	Jun 26	Q2 25	Q2 26	Q2 change	YE 25	YTD 26	YTD change				
	RFRR - Total		14121	14665	15156		14856	14549	15217	43,942	44,622	2%	177,978	123,102	-31%				
	Adult - All Categories		9883	10144	10073		9878	10275	10335	30,100	30,488	1%	123,382	83,616	-32%				
		Fiction	2249	2519	2501		2358	2300	2663	7,269	7,321	1%	30,398	20,432	-33%				
		Non-Fiction	992	958	953		941	993	922	2,903	2,856	-2%	11,621	7,738	-33%				
		Express (Book + AV)	146	150	153		202	173	234	449	609	36%	1,833	1,618	-12%				
		E-Media	5989	5974	5898		5781	6283	5945	17,861	18,009	1%	71,552	49,016	-31%				
		Movie	396	432	435		404	361	394	1,263	1,159	-8%	5,665	3,314	-42%				
		Music	53	31	38		67	40	36	122	143	17%	383	330	-14%				
		Other	58	80	95		125	125	141	233	391	68%	1,930	1,168	-39%				
	Children's - All Categories		4238	4521	5083		4978	4274	4882	13,842	14,134	2%	54,596	39,486	-28%				
		Fiction	3307	3472	4135		3888	3334	4036	10,914	11,258	3%	43,314	31,708	-27%				
		Non-Fiction	737	795	697		842	736	564	2,229	2,142	-4%	8,399	5,670	-32%				
		Movie	4	7	14		14	10	24	25	48	92%	189	153	-19%				
		Music	2	1	0		3	2	2	3	7	133%	20	18	-10%				
		Other	188	246	237		231	192	256	671	679	1%	2,674	1,937	-28%				
	ROS		275	299	337		279	264	261	911	804	-12%	3,394	2,268	-33%				
ILL to Other WLS Libraries			Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25		Apr 26	May 26	Jun 26	Q2 25	Q2 26	Q2 change	YE 25	YTD 26	YTD change				
	RFRR		992	1084	947		991	991	999	3,023	2,981	-1%	12,697	8,232	-35%				
	ROS		32	24	34		30	15	14	90	59	-34%	330	162	-51%				
New Patron Registration			Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25		Apr 26	May 26	Jun 26	Q2 25	Q2 26	Q2 change	YE 25	YTD 26	YTD change				
	RFRR		55	90	112		79	64	130	257	273	6%	913	621	-32%				
		Adult	50	56	52		53	45	61	158	159	1%	636	400	-37%				
		Teen	1	0	8		7	2	13	9	22	144%	71	46	-35%				
		Children	4	34	52		19	17	56	90	92	2%	206	175	-15%				
		Digital	27	31	26		31	31	31	84	93	11%	390	259	-34%				
	ROS		2	6	4		6	2	6	12	14	17%	49	36	-27%				
Reference Services																			
Questions Answered			Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25		Apr 26	May 26	Jun 26	Q2 25	Q2 26	Q2 change	YE 25	YTD 26	YTD change				
	RFRR		3660	3762	4129		3916	4200	3950	11,551	12,066	4%	47,779	32,927	-31%				
		Adult	2694	2576	2746		2827	3062	2664	8,016	8,553	7%	32,963	23,248	-29%				
		Children	966	1186	1383		1089	1138	1286	3,535	3,513	-1%	14,816	9,679	-35%				
	ROS		197	166	181		169	131	107	544	407	-25%	1,786	1,142	-36%				
Programs & Events (RFRR Only)																			
Programs & Program Attendance			Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25		Apr 26	May 26	Jun 26	Q2 25	Q2 26	Q2 change	YE 25	YTD 26	YTD change				
		Programs	98	97	128		125	130	121	323	376	16%	1,245	942	-24%				
		Adult	28	30	24		38	45	34	82	117	43%	309	264	-15%				
		Teen	19	13	14		17	19	20	46	56	22%	220	153	-30%				
		Children	12	54	52		70	66	67	118	203	72%	639	525	-18%				
		Attendance	2485	2060	2293		3171	2566	2607	6,838	8,344	22%	29,750	21,887	-26%				
		Adult Programs	144	214	190		462	476	135	548	1,073	96%	4,195	3,046	-27%				
		Teen Programs	40	79	174		173	97	107	293	377	29%	2,303	1,606	-30%				
		Children's Programs	2301	1767	1929		2536	1993	2365	5,997	6,894	15%	23,252	17,235	-26%				
Library Visits (Doorcount; RFRR Only)																			
Doorcount			Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25		Apr 26	May 26	Jun 26	Q2 25	Q2 26	Q2 change	YE 25	YTD 26	YTD change				
	RFRR		12271	11991	14690		13850	14553	14205	38,952	42,608	9%	166,822	111,630	-33%				
Electronic Services (RFRR Only)																			
Computer Sessions			Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25		Apr 26	May 26	Jun 26	Q2 25	Q2 26	Q2 change	YE 25	YTD 26	YTD change				
	Use of Public PCs		117	146	186		132	179	160	449	471	5%	1,785	1,048	-41%				
		Adult PCs	8	9	8		4	14	6	25	24	-4%	95	49	-48%				
		Laptops	109	137	178		128	165	154	424	447	5%	1,690	999	-41%				
Website Use			Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25		Apr 26	May 26	Jun 26	Q2 25	Q2 26	Q2 change	YE 25	YTD 26	YTD change				
	Sessions (Visits)		4945	4638	6309		6092	6393	7677	15,892	20,162	27%	66,519	56,183	-16%				
	Users		4079	4030	5708		4524	4559	5264	13,817	14,347	4%	50,383	42,154	-16%				
	Pageviews		7482	6988	10083		8805	9108	11092	24,553	29,005	18%	103,909	81,923	-21%				
Wifi Usage			Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25		Apr 26	May 26	Jun 26	Q2 25	Q2 26	Q2 change	YE 25	YTD 26	YTD change				
		Sessions	1344	1540	1451		1271	1544	1539	4,335	4,354	0%	17,784	10,755	-40%				
Technical Services																			
Items Added			Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25		Apr 26	May 26	Jun 26	Q2 25	Q2 26	Q2 change	YE 25	YTD 26	YTD change				
	RFRR		686	921	489		422	638	700	2,096	1,760	-16%	6,734	4,419	-34%				
		Adult	611	827	327		411	424	451	1,765	835	-53%	5,226	3,239	-38%				
		Fiction	342	323	124		225	183	197	789	605	-23%	2,973	1,806	-39%				
		Non-Fiction	66	25	106		12	31	72	197	115	-42%	505	252	-50%				
		eBooks	129	34	34		146	185	134	197	465	136%	848	918	8%				
		Express (Book + AV)	29	19	10		17	18	33	58	68	17%	205	171	-17%				
		Movie	33	10	11		8	4	8	54	20	-63%	168	60	-64%				
		Other	12	416	42		3	3	7	470	13	-97%	527	32	-94%				
		Children's	75	94	162		11	214	249	331	474	43%	1,508	1,180	-22%				
		Fiction	52	64	106		11	156	153	222	320	44%	1,219	841	-31%				
		Non-Fiction	23	30	56		0	58	96	109	154	41%	289	339	17%				
		Other	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!				
	ROS		23	20	4		20	15	25	47	60	28%	196	151	-23%				

2027 – 2031 Free Direct Access Plan

New York State Library Division of Library Development (DLD) requires that each library system submits a five-year plan of service. The system Plan of Service is a planning document which identifies, organizes, and provides an overview of the library system's service program including intended changes in services or priorities. The Plan emphasizes what the library system proposes to accomplish and whom the library system serves. The Plan demonstrates how the library system anticipates it will fulfill the major roles expected of library systems.

One part of the WLS Plan of Service for 2027-2031 is the Free Direct Access Plan. This document offers guidance should a member library shut down suddenly and neighboring libraries are affected. It also would help monitor municipalities' support for their libraries should there be an unexpected increase in lending activity. There are no changes to the document other than an update to the time period that the plan covers.

Once 20 or more member library boards have approved the drafted plan, it will then be brought before the WLS Board for final approval. A copy of the 2027-2032 Free Direct Action Plan is included below

Action : The Board approve the 2027 – 2031 Free Direct Access Plan



**Westchester Library System
Free Direct Access Plan for 2027-2031
to Fulfill Commissioner's Regulation
90.3 (a) through (d)(4)**

1. Describe how all individuals residing within the boundaries of the system but outside a member public library's chartered service area will receive library services.

The Westchester Library System's (WLS) service area is Westchester County. To be eligible for a system-wide borrower's card, individuals must live, work, go to school or own real property within a member library's chartered service area or a community that has contracted with a WLS member library.

Individuals should register for their borrower's card at the local library that serves the address where they live, work, go to school or own real property. For individuals meeting more than one of the eligibility requirements, the local library status will be determined based on the priority order of where they: (1) live, (2) work, (3) go to school, or (4) own real property. Member libraries shall require proof of eligibility before issuing a system-wide borrower's card.

The person to whom the borrower's card is issued, or their designated parent/guardian, assumes financial responsibility for its use, including all materials borrowed on that card. In no case shall more than one active system-wide borrower's card be issued to an individual.

Individuals residing in Westchester County but outside a member library's chartered service or contracted service areas will receive:

- Walk-in access to on-site materials at any member libraries;
- State-funded Central Library services;
- WLS website and online catalog services that do not require a library card.

As defined in Commissioner's Regulation §90.3 (a)(8) and required by §90.3 (d)(i), on-site use will be available to any Westchester County resident. However, the following limitations may

be imposed as per Section (d)(2)(iii) of Commissioner's Regulation §90.3 and the Division of Library Development Guidelines:

- Member libraries may give preference to the residents of their taxing district for attendance at library programs.
- Member libraries may give preference to the residents of their taxing district in the use of computer and Internet resources.
- Member libraries may give preference to the residents and organizations of their taxing district in the reservation and use of meeting rooms.

An individual who lives outside of Westchester County and does not work, go to school or own property in Westchester may purchase a card from WLS.

The entitlement to library services and borrowing privileges outlined in this Free Direct Access Plan shall be forfeited by any individual who fails to observe the rules and regulations or follow the policies of WLS member libraries and/or the Westchester Library System.

2. Describe (a) how the system will assure that those persons living within the system boundaries in an area where a member library chooses to withdraw from the system, or (b) where a chartered and registered library was never a member of the system, will be served by the system.

- a. In the event a library withdraws from WLS, residents of the affected area will continue to be entitled to on-site access as defined in Commissioner's Regulation §90.3 (a)(8) with the limitations specified in #1, above. Residents of such areas may continue on-site borrowing of WLS Central Library circulating materials purchased with state or federal funds.
- b. All registered and chartered public libraries in Westchester County are members of WLS.

3. Describe what the system considers serious inequities and hardship and the criteria used by the system to make the determination.

In addition to excessive borrowing as described in #4 below, additional factors contribute to the inequitable overuse of a library by cardholders of other libraries and are considered serious inequities and hardships. Those factors which may be grounds for the request of a hardship waiver by the Commissioner include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A significant difference/shift in hours of operation, or any decrease that causes library hours to fall below the state-mandated minimum hours of operation;
- The failure of a nearby library to adequately serve its local users (i.e. lack of facilities such as parking, ongoing construction or chronic budgetary constraints);
- The defeat of a proposition in an untaxed/unserved area to establish a library pursuant to Section 255 of the Education Law, or other pertinent legislative act, to establish or maintain a library;

- The defeat of a proposition in an untaxed/unserved area to contract for library services with a registered member library in accordance with Section 256 of the Education Law.
- When an unserved community has a population over 10,000 and has no equitable contract for library services.

4. Describe what constitutes excessive out of chartered service area borrowing in the system.

Excessive out of service area borrowing occurs when 15% or more of the net difference of an on-site library's circulation is from non-residents, individuals not residing within the library's chartered or contracted service areas. Net difference is based on the number of "home library" items checked out at the circulation desk and does not include "intransit" items received from other member libraries.

5. Unserved and Underserved Populations

a. Describe the unserved and the underserved populations within the system.

Unserved areas in Westchester County include the Village of Elmsford, portions of the Town of Mamaroneck and the Town of Cortlandt (Lakeland School District). A member library currently contracts with each of these communities. The Ardsley Public Library serves the Village of Elmsford; The Larchmont Public Library serves the Town of Mamaroneck; and The Field Library of Peekskill, the Hendrick Hudson Free Library in Montrose, The John C. Hart Memorial Library in Yorktown and the Croton Free Library serve the Town of Cortlandt. Fire Protection District #1 in the Town of Bedford remains an unserved area and the Bedford Hills Free Library provides service to those residents.

At present there are no underserved areas. Residents living within chartered or contracted service areas are served by a member library that exceeds the minimum standards for service as defined in Commissioner's Regulation §90.2 or has been granted a waiver from specific standards by the State Education Department.

b. Describe the criteria used by the system to identify libraries as having an inadequate level of local income to support the delivery of acceptable library services (underserved). List those libraries so identified.

The criteria used are compliance with the minimum standards contained in New York State Education Law and New York State Commissioner's Regulation §90.2 as reported by member libraries on their annual report to the state.

c. Describe the actions the system will take to expand the availability of library services to unserved and underserved individuals residing within the boundaries of the system.

WLS provides ongoing outreach services to encourage and promote library usage to populations that do not typically use public libraries. WLS sponsors trustee training sessions that focus on advocacy techniques to gain increasing funding for their library and the communities they serve.

d. Provide a timetable for such action:

Ongoing

e. Identify who will be responsible for carrying out these actions.

WLS and the member libraries

6. Describe the conditions under which modifications to the free direct access plan can be made: (a) without the approval of the Commissioner; (b) with the prior approval of the Commissioner.

a. Libraries that experience excessive out-of-chartered service area borrowing as defined in Section 4 above may, upon appropriate public notice and without further approval from WLS or the Commissioner of Education, may

(1) Place restrictions on the loan of library resources, said restrictions to be limited to non-print materials and equipment, and print materials less than one year from the acquisition date and purchased with local funds; and,

(2) Place restrictions on attendance at library programs *due to lack of space or staffing to accommodate non-residents*, provided such programs are supported entirely by local funds;

(3) Place restrictions on new or experimental collections;

(4) Place restrictions due to the inability of neighboring libraries to provide reciprocity for borrowing similar high demand materials;

b. Further proposed restrictions to library service or access must be approved by a simple majority of member libraries and by the Westchester Library System Board of Trustees before transmission to the Commissioner of Education for approval. The request for restrictions must be accompanied by the following, in a form acceptable to the Division of Library Development:

- Documentation of the serious inequities and hardships affecting the resident borrowers of the member library making the request;
- A clear description of the proposed restrictions and modifications to this direct access plan being requested provided such modifications do not include charging for library services;
- Description of the anticipated impact on resident and non-resident borrowers after modification are approved and implemented;
- Provision of a time frame for the beginning and end of such restrictions and modifications to this direct access plan.

7. Describe how the system will assure that member libraries are complying with the system free direct access plan approved by a majority of member libraries.

WLS and its member libraries are obligated to comply with this Free Direct Access Plan. The Plan of Service for WLS, of which this Free Direct Access Plan is a part, is a contract between the State Education Department and the Westchester Library System. As a condition of System membership, the member libraries have agreed to comply with all Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

8. Describe how the system obtained member library input to the plan for free direct access.

A draft of the Plan will be submitted by the WLS Executive Director to the Public Library Directors Association (PLDA) and the WLS Board of Trustees. The WLS Board of Trustees will review the draft Plan to be submitted to PLDA on **6/30/2026**. PLDA will review the Plan at their **7/16/2026** meeting. The Plan will then be submitted to the Boards of the 38 member libraries. Once a simple majority of the 38 member libraries have approved the Plan, it will be brought to the WLS Board of Trustees for approval on **9/29/2026**. The Plan will then be submitted to Division of Library Development (DLD) for approval by the Commissioner of Education.

Last update: June 12, 2026

Adult Services

PROGRAMMING:

- *Summer Music on the Green*
- *Planter Party*
- Art Exhibits & Receptions - *In the Gallery*
 - July - Rye Historical Society RR250 Tree Preservation Initiative
 - September – Art for Purchase – Susan Deshkensky Quilts

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

Strategic Priority 1: Independent Reading Services

- 2026 Summer Reading: *Unearth A Story!* - June 13 - August 31
 - 47 adult registrants
 - RW250: 13 books for 13 colonies- NY, Fourth of July, Summer Cooking, Beach Reads, Let's Travel: Travel, New Zealand, France, Spain, September 11th, Autumn Reads, Dolly Parton Day, Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month

Strategic Priority 4: Community Interest Advancement

- Programs
 - *Summer Stitch and Embroidery – Unearth a story*
 - *Read in Rye : The Three Graces of Pearl Street - Elizabeth Wellington Rollins with Annabel Monaghan*
 - *Read in Rye : Strike Season: The True Story of a Team That Played on When the Coaches Walked Out -Michael Eck*

SPACE BOOKINGS – June, July, August

- Local History Room – 58, 43, 49
- Left Study Room – 29, 41, 37
- Right Study Room - 29, 40, 42

ONE ON ONE APPOINTMENTS - June, July, August

- Notary Appointments – 14, 15, 13
- Technology Training – 1, 3, 1

Teen Services

PROGRAMMING AND DISPLAYS:

- Teen led programs this month included: selfie-esteem (social media mindfulness), crafting for a cause (different projects for local hospitals and orgs), and a new DM for a D&D campaign that has a table full of players already.
- The Manga Book Club has grown to 20 members(!!!), where I have capped it as what I am reasonably able to manage in addition to financially sustaining the model of offering the first volume for readers to keep. This month's pick is One Piece 3-in-1 to be discussed in September, and October's pick is The Summer Hikaru Died. They will decide on November's pick at the upcoming meeting.

Strategic Goals

1. Independent Reading and Reading Drop-off Prevention
 - September's main display is themed: "Back(stabbing) to School" and highlights dark academia, high school, and boarding school murder mysteries which have been popular in addition to romance, which was the theme this summer as that genre is one of my most frequently asked reader's advisory question.
 - 109 Summer reading participants
2. Community Interest Advancement.
 - I will be attending the back-to-school night at the high school on 10/1, and Elizabeth was able to attend the middle school's on my behalf when I had a conflict – the mingling part of the night is scheduled for later than we can stay, so impact may not be as great as when visiting the incoming 6th graders before the end of the school year.

Materials:

- Items continue to circulate well across the collection, save for non-fiction despite the addition of shorter and topically interesting books from Sebco, the next Quarterly Weed in October will hopefully make more room on the shelves again as it's starting to get tight.
- the board game check in system is going smoothly with minimal lost pieces and none lost in-house!

Children's Services

Community Interest Advancement

- Our story time programs continue for all of our youngest patrons. Tales for Tots on Mondays with Debbie Fletcher has been going well. Robert the Guitar Guy on Tuesdays, Wiggle Giggle on Wednesdays, Bilingual Music on Thursdays, and Creative Movement Storytime on Fridays are all well attended.
- All of our summer events were extremely successful. Our weekly programs were regularly full to the brim, and would often reach maximum registration within minutes of the classes being open. We did cooking weekly, crafting weekly, and several exciting one-off programs featuring an archaeologist, the Animal Embassy, and an escape room.
- Crafty Kids on Wednesdays resumes this week, and Cooking with Kids began last Monday. These regularly scheduled programs continue to be popular and attract kids into the library on a regular basis.

Independent Reading and Reading Drop-off Prevention

- 270 summer reading signups read 159,056 minutes compared to 196 participants in 2025 who read 146,881 minutes.
- Book Groups for kids start in October. Books & Beyond for 3rd-5th graders returns with The Last-Last Day of Summer. A brand new Graphic Novel book club for 3rd-5th graders begins the first week of October, featuring Mr. Wolf's Class. Another brand new American Girl Book Group will begin in October as well, featuring the character Kaya.
- The Therapy Dog Brigade is returning in October as well. Kids can come read to a dog for a 10 minute session. It meets once a month on Friday after school.

Outreach:

- Librarians have been participating in the local Back to School nights at the 3 elementary schools and the high school.

**Building Committee Meeting
July 28, 2026
2 pm**

Emilie Reddoch, Georgia Dyer, Joe Lorono, Jill MacVicar, Jim Steinthal, Emily Tisdale, Chris Shoemaker

The meeting started at 2 pm. Chris Shoemaker provided an overview on the three responses to the library meeting room RFP. Pricing ranged between \$40,000 and \$95,000. There was discussion over the different system options and pricing. There was discussion over the types of adaptive listening systems for the meeting room. Pending updated information from Metro Sound Pros, the committee felt moving forward with MSP is the best value for the project. Chris will get an update from MSP and present the revised quote to the executive committee. The proposal will not be formally accepted until after the results of the NYS Construction Grant program.

Chris presented information on different carpet options. The two carpet options are carpet tiles or Axminster style broadloom carpet. Carpet options ranged between \$8,000 and \$30,000. There was discussion over the benefits and drawbacks of each of the styles. Chris and Joe will circulate some higher end carpet tile styles. Carpet tiles are slightly preferred due to the ability to swap stained tiles out.

Chris reviewed the architecture proposal from Rex Gedney. The proposal covers creating the plans for a mezzanine over the children's fiction collection as well as structural improvements to the lower level. The total fee is \$10,500. This covers the design, not any actual construction. There was discussion over the cost and next steps.

The committee approved moving forward with Rex's proposal.

The meeting ended at 2:33 pm.

2027 Budget

The 2027 budget request for the city is \$1,740,000. It will be an increase of \$77,000, or 4.4% over the 2026 funding amount.

Due to projected health insurance increases of \$27,000, some changes were made in the overall library services. The most visible changes will be

- changing Sunday staffing models - same number of staff, but library assistant in the children's room
- dropping from 6 mailed newsletters to 4 - Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter issues instead of Jan/Feb, Mar/Apr, etc
- moving the children's calendar production in house using a Canva template design

While it appears there is a big shift in automated systems, some of those funds are being directed to contracted services, as things like the alarm and fire system were in automated services previously, but are better suited to building operations, not library operations.

Action : The Board approve the projected 2027 budget

	2026	2027	2027
	Adopted	draft	Increase / Decrease
INCOME			
City of Rye	\$1,663,000	\$1,740,000	\$77,000
Annual Campaign	280,000	280,000	
Osborne Branch Library	62,871	65,208	\$2,337
Miscellaneous Income	35,000	36,000	\$1,000
Aux Board Transfer	80,000	80,000	
Transfer from Endowments	110,000	110,000	
	\$ 2,230,871	\$ 2,311,208	\$80,337

	2026	2027	2027
	Adopted	draft	Increase / Decrease
MATERIALS			
Books	\$ 98,885	\$ 98,885	
Audio Visual	25,940	25,940	
Periodicals	12,900	12,900	
Programs	63,500	63,500	
Online Resources	85,900	85,900	
Miscellaneous	100	100	
	287,225	287,225	\$0

LIBRARY OPERATIONS			
Supplies	15,000	15,000	
Equipment & Systems - New	4,000	3,500	(\$500)
Equipment & Systems - Maintenance	4,500	4,000	(\$500)
Automated Systems	95,250	84,230	(\$11,020)
Telephone	7,000	7,000	
Postage	10,000	9,000	(\$1,000)
Printing & Publicity	30,000	28,000	(\$2,000)
Auditing	25,000	25,000	
Legal Services	2,000	2,000	
Capital Projects	60,000	60,000	
Miscellaneous	7,800	7,800	
	260,550	245,530	(\$15,020)

BUILDING OPERATIONS			
Heat	27,000	30,000	\$3,000
Light & Power	35,500	35,500	
Water & Sewer	10,500	11,000	\$500
Fixtures, Furnishings & Equipment	5,000	5,000	
Supplies	12,000	12,000	
Contracted Services	37,000	46,000	\$9,000
Maintenance & Repairs	18,000	18,000	
Insurance	37,850	45,907	\$8,057
	182,850	203,407	\$20,557

Personnel			
Salaries	1,139,866	1,171,734	\$31,868
Social Security	87,737	89,638	\$1,901
Other Personnel Expense	0	0	
Retirement	149,462	163,913	\$14,451
Medical Insurance	93,634	121,107	\$27,473
Other Insurance	16,000	16,000	
Payroll Services	7,000	7,000	
Staff Development	5,000	5,000	
	\$ 1,498,699	\$ 1,574,392	\$75,693

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE	\$ 2,229,324	\$ 2,310,554	\$81,230
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Surplus/Deficit	\$ 1,547	\$ 654	
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**Strategic Planning Meeting
September 24, 2026
2 pm
Zoom**

Jim Steinthal, Georgia Dyer, Lina Eroh, Duncan Sibson, Katie Vernace, Linda Braun, Chris Shoemaker

Linda Braun provided an overview of the strategic planning process. Since the August 21st focus groups with library staff and trustees, LEO has collected 328 surveys, had 27 conversations on the streets, held 3 one on one conversations, and conducted 1 community leader focus group.

Linda provided a high level look at the results and broad insights:

- Friends and Connections - people looking to find their groups to join
- Hidden People - men visiting the library to print when working from home
- Seniors - thinking about alternative timing to avoid space and parking conflicts
- Offsite programming - staffing and other considerations
- Materials and Formats - books and appearance for visible investment
- Space use - parties, newcomers, and connections with like-minded people
- Tweens - finding space for them outside of CVS, Starbucks, Dabney Lee
- Teens - Different crowd, not gym
- What is the library - social space for learning, connection, growing
- What is the library - promote reading, learning, classic quiet, community center
- Who are we supporting - learning and collaborating styles are all different
- Barriers - avoiding tech, schedules, cost of tickets

Linda, Jim, and Chris will be setting up the Making Meaning sessions, which will be deeper dives into the information collected, and examine the question of who we are supporting and what is the library?

Zoom recording link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/hisv5VXUlxzZEZJZPlgMPLU6J42WiOPTGW4FVkfXQbs00InD6uN4Msa22DVQHal.nT8QUEIRzKohnZgx>

Mission Moments

Make More Possible by making a donation to the Annual Campaign! This year, your continued support would make even more possible. Your gift expands the collection of books and ebooks, increases programs to engage and inspire, offers more technology to expand access, and creates more ways for people to learn and gather together. Donate now at www.ryelibrary.org/friend

Notable Activities

September 30th – 7 pm

Trashy Good : Food, Fizz, and Friends with J.M. Hirsch

Join J.M. Hirsch, the James Beard Award-winning former editorial director of Christopher Kimball's Milk Street and the former national food editor for The Associated Press for a friendly evening of food and fizz. Attendees will receive a copy of Freezer Door Cocktails: 75 Cocktails that are ready when you are.

October 8 – 6 pm

Beginner Magic Workshop for adults and teens.

Discover the secret world of magic in this interactive beginner magic workshop with professional magician Magic Evan! Participants will learn impressive, beginner-friendly tricks using everyday objects while exploring performance, presentation, and the art of creating wonder.

October 14th – 6 pm

City of Rye Comprehensive Plan

The City of Rye is currently updating its Comprehensive Plan, and you're invited to an upcoming public workshop where residents can share their ideas and priorities for Rye.

RSVP : www.CityofRyeComprehensivePlan.com

October 19th – 1 pm

Roadmap to Retirement

It's takes thoughtful, proactive planning to build a legacy and achieve a dream retirement. For many however, this can be a source of anxiety. Join Morgan Stanley Financial Advisor Christopher Stone CRPC™, CEPA®, for an informative discussion designed to help put your mind at ease.