

Denville Public Library  
121 Diamond Spring Road  
Denville, NJ 07834

The Board of Trustees of the Denville Public Library met in special session on Thursday, January 28, 2025, in the Denville Township Council Chambers. Town Council President Christopher Golinski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Golinski announced that the notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey for this meeting have been satisfied. Annual notice of the meetings of this Board, containing the time, date and location of this meeting is posted on the outside door of the Public Library and on the bulletin board at Town Hall. The annual notice was transmitted to two newspapers and filed with the Clerk of the Township of Denville.

**ROLL:** Present: Carlos Duarte, President  
Seth Johnson, Vice President  
Nancy Gerhardt, Treasurer  
Tom Andes, Mayor  
Michael Dunn  
Linda Breder, Superintendent Alternate

Also Present: Siobhan Koch, Library Director  
Anne Puppo, Manager of Administrative Services  
Glenn Buie  
Chrissy Kovacs  
Gary Borowiec  
Christopher Golinski  
Mark Venis  
Robbie Simpson  
Lou Maffei  
Steve Ward  
Jessica Falce  
Cassi Coviello  
Public

Absent: Tara Baumann, Secretary

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Duarte provided opening remarks and turned the meeting over to Library Director, Siobhan Koch.

Ms. Koch spoke about 2024 in review.

- The flooring and furniture in the adult services area was replaced. We now have a much more open layout and all furniture is on wheels for easy movement.
- The reference desk was replaced and is now in a new location and also on wheels so that it may be moved when needed.
- We installed two new bookshelves in our children's area and purchased new items to organize the children's closet that was expanded a few years back.

- The library operated out of the Denville Historical Museum until we reopened on March 19, 2025.
- The staff members continue to come up with new ideas to engage our patrons, whether it be new displays, programs, outreach, or ways to enhance the patron experience.
- The library worked with many organizations and businesses in town.
- We have a library mascot, an alien named Basil.
- Weekly take and make crafts for kids continue totaling 6,637 craft kits in 2024.
- The highest attended program was the Trunk or Treat with 493 attendees.
- Preschool Fun Activities, including weekly summer science programs, were held on the Museum Patio and at Town Hall.
- Summer Reading continued this year with 381 kids registered.
- Lakeview School did a fundraiser and purchased books celebrating neurodiversity on behalf of S.P.A.R.K. for the Library.
- The Friends of the Library donated \$1,000 for e-books/e-audiobooks, \$1,700 for large print books, \$1,800 for programming and \$1,500 for duplicate copies of popular titles for the Library.
- Letters from Santa had a successful year with 291 letters being delivered to children.
- The Main Library Alliance teamed up with Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey to give discounts to library card holder.
- Raritan and Fairfield Libraries joined the Main Library Alliance.
- The adult services staff answered 6,357 reference questions in 2024.
- The Seed Library was popular again this year. Patrons enjoy being able to try out various seeds in their gardens.
- Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram to see pictures throughout the year of the wonderful programs being held.

Ms. Koch then spoke about 2025 Where Are We Going?

- New additions for 2025 are Library passes for the Turtleback Zoo and coming shortly the Battleship New Jersey and an additional pass for the Morris Museum. At the very end of 2024, we purchased Kanopy for the Library, which is another streaming service for movies. This site also comes with licensing to be able to show the movies inside the Library for programming.
- A silent book club is beginning in February. The concept is to have everyone come together in one place and read their individual books. They have been popular at other libraries. We are teaming with Diamond Spring Brewery and having our book club meet there.
- This is an exciting year for the Main Library Alliance as we will be getting a new ILS computer system in March. If all goes as planned, the Warren County Library system will be joining the consortium in May, followed by Berkeley Heights Library later in the year and by Somerset County Library system and Sparta Public Library in December. Sussex County Library system will be joining at the end of 2026. Please note there is a discussion of a name change for the consortium as well.
- The Library has discontinued purchasing music CDs and Audiobooks on CD. The circulation numbers have been dwindling as a lot of people have switched to streaming services. The Library does offer digital alternatives.
- The Library is working with the Schools and other organizations in town on the The Anxious Generation Book Study. Altogether we have 22 copies of the book, 1 of the audiobook, and 1 of the Spanish language book. We also have 10 copies of the e-book

and 10 copies of the e-audiobook. We are working on setting up programming to coincide with topics from the book to have at the Library.

- A new program titled Winterfest will be held on 2/21 after the Library closes and will be another family fun event. There will be an ice carver, hot cocoa provided by The Barn, entertainment provided by Bach To Rock, and fun activities for the families.

Ms. Koch presented the 2025 budget.

**PUBLIC:**

- Mr. Michael Dunn complimented the director and the library staff.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Ms. Gerhardt, seconded by Ms. Breder, to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 pm. A voice vote indicated all present in favor with no opposition expressed.

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Ms. Baumann, Secretary