

Woodstock Public Library Board of Trustees meeting, October 9, 2025

The meeting was orderly and drama-free. Two board members were absent. Present were Nick Weber, Library Director, and Tiara, a staff member. Also present were seven members of the Friends of the Old Courthouse.

The meeting was run by Robert Laurie, Board Chair. He followed the published agenda (attached).

Minutes: Minutes of September 11 approved unanimously.

Staff Visit: Library will be getting large print books from Hearthstone (which is going out of business). Program for homebound patrons is growing.

Public Comment: The Friends of the Old Courthouse presented the library with a book about a prominent Chicago-area architect, John Mills Van Osdel, who designed the old court house. (The Friends left after their presentation.)

Board Comments: Primary vendor of library books has abruptly closed. We know of alternatives, but they will have to be explored.

Communications: none

Library Expenditures: September Expenditures approved unanimously.

Librarian's Report: Staffing nearly complete; library is exploring new programs; Story Time is going well under a new librarian. Local history walking tours are resuming (after COVID).

Library visitor traffic is up, checkouts are up.

Several out-of-library events: the library participated in an event at the Outdoor Theater in McHenry; all but two McHenry county libraries were present. Witches and Wizards (10/19), PUG Day.

New Business: New public comment policy, limiting members of the public to three minutes' speaking time (it can be waived) passed.

Surplus property disposal (\$5000 value and up) policy approved.

Unfinished Business:

Prairie Roots (landscaping) project is on track.

Building Update: Pneumatic (HVAC) refurbishing almost finished – should be done next week.

A/V update for basement meeting rooms is in progress.

Carpet: There are some bumps here and there which could be a tripping hazard. They are still seeking a vendor to fix.

FoWL: annual meeting in January