

**MINUTES  
HAVERSTRAW KING'S DAUGHTERS  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
September 9, 2025  
7:30 pm**



**HAVERSTRAW  
KING'S DAUGHTERS  
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Board Members Present

Richard S. Freeman, President  
Stephen Cobb  
Eileen Bookman

Board Members Absent

Gail Kaiser  
Teriann DiCarlo  
Bonnie Koop  
Sonia Burgos Crannage

Staff

Claudia Depkin, Director  
Lori Salotto, Assistant Director  
Victor Contero, Principal Account Clerk  
Tommy Russo, Clerk to the Board

Guests

None

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Freeman called the meeting to order at 7:48 pm.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**III. RECEPTION OF VISITORS**

There were no visitors.

#### **IV. COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Freeman read a letter from the Sustainable Libraries Initiative which read as follows:

***In Gratitude for the Service of Claudia Depkin, Founding Co-Creator .of the Sustainable libraries Initiative upon her final year of service on the advisory board:***

*WHEREAS Claudia Depkin was a founding co-creator of the Sustainable Libraries Initiative in 2014; and*

*WHEREAS Ms. Depkin has announced her plans to step down from the advisory board of the Sustainable Initiative effective July 2025 after over a decade of service to the initiative; and*

*WHEREAS Ms. Depkin, has helped to shape the groundbreaking work of the Sustainable Libraries Initiative to design a certification program and create a robust community of practice, by testing this program at her own library, becoming a mentor to others going through the program, and making multiple presentations as an ambassador of this work; and*

*WHEREAS Ms. Depkin led the library she is director of, the Haverstraw King's Daughters Public Library, to complete the Sustainable Library Certification Program; and*

*WHEREAS Ms. Depkin served as the inaugural President of the New York Library Association's Sustainable Thinking and Action Round Table and a key member of the committee that created the first Statewide Community Read in New York State; and*

*WHEREAS Ms. Depkin was named a Library Journal Mover & Shaker, an international recognition of her foresight and leadership on the topic of sustainability; and*

*WHEREAS Ms. Depkin has exemplified dignified, pragmatic, and professional leadership alongside her colleagues, which has inspired thousands of library professionals across the planet,*

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Advisory Board of the Sustainable Libraries Initiative hereby expresses its gratitude to Ms. Depkin for her service to the initiative and for her superior work on behalf of our profession.*

July 23, 2025 Sustainable Libraries Initiative Advisory Board

#### **V. MINUTES**

It was noted that Ms. Bookman's name was omitted from the list of Board Members Present for the August 12, 2025 Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes when she was, in fact, in attendance. Upon assurance that this would be rectified for publication to the library's website Mr. Cobb moved to accept the Minutes of the August 12, 2025 Board of Trustees Meeting. Ms. Bookman seconded. Vote unanimous.

#### **VI. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Due to the absence of a quorum, the Financial Reports were not reviewed for approval. These reports will be reviewed at the next Board of Trustees Meeting, taking place on October 14, 2025.

## **VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Bookman moved to accept the September 9, 2025 Director's Report. Mr. Cobb seconded. Vote unanimous.

## **VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**1. Personnel** – Nothing at this time.

**2. Policy** – Nothing at this time.

**3. Buildings & Grounds** – Nothing at this time.

**4. Budget** – Nothing at this time.

## **IX. OLD BUSINESS**

Nothing to report.

## **X. NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Depkin was appointed to the Rockland County Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Task Force by the County Legislature Environmental Committee on 8/26. As a member of this group Ms. Depkin will help guide Rockland County's process to be recognized by New York State for its efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate. The CSC program offers grants, rebates for electric vehicles, and free technical assistance. By joining this program, the County is making a pledge to complete a suite of actions that mitigate and adapt to climate change at the local level.

## **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Bookman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 pm. Mr. Cobb seconded. Vote unanimous.

The next regular scheduled meeting is Tuesday, October 14, 2025 at 7:30 pm in the Board Room at the Main Library.

Submitted by: Tommy Russo, Clerk to the Board  
October 10, 2025