

Darwin R. Barker Library & Museum Association

Board of Trustees Meeting

May 21st, 2025

Agenda:

Public Comments:

Correspondence:

Review of Minutes:

Treasurer Report: Mark Twichell

Town Representative: Chris Schaeffer

Village Representative: Michelle Twichell

Librarian Report: Graham Tedesco-Blair

Archivist Report: Catherine Oag-Miller

Curator Report: Max Walters

Old Business: 259 meeting update

New Business:

Calendar:

Adjournment:

Darwin R. Barker Library & Museum Association

Board of Trustees Minutes

April 16, 2025

Present: Jon Weekly, Kitty Crow, Kathy Petersen, Max Walters, Mark Twichell, Margaret Gray, Catherine Oag-Miller, Diane Hannum, Dave Dengler, Mandi Shepp, Graham Tedesco-Blair

Village Representative: absent

Town Representative: Mike Lee

Guest: Jan Dekoff, CCLS

Public Comments: none

Correspondence: Max received a thank-you note from Angela Pucciarrelli-Rice for hosting a college class tour of the museum.

Minutes: minutes reviewed & accepted

Treasurer Report: Mark reports that the town building appraisal is problematic due to the shared building layout.

Another appraiser (KLW) will be contacted.

The BLB report: the gas bill was over budget. There was a Morris Miller reporting mistake.

Town Representative: new town board rep Mike Lee is introduced

Village Representative: absent, but Mark shares that all the Lafayette events have been approved by the village

Librarian Report: Written report is reviewed & accepted

Archivist Report: written report is reviewed & accepted

Curator Report: written report is reviewed & accepted

Old Business: the quote for an appraisal (\$1900) is received from KLW. There are questions about environmental standing, as the site was a former gas station. Tammy Hess-Schmitt from Howard Hanna may be able to help

with questions. Peter Clark will help with legal issues. Kitty suggests a financial analysis

Darwin R. Barker Library & Museum Association

Board of Trustees Meeting

May 21st, 2025

Library Report

Art Reception – Art Reception was held on May 8th, with 59 attendees. The fantastic show by the Aspire of WNY iXpress showcased the talents of many different artists on a variety of subjects, and both the artists and attendees had an amazing time.

Sci Fi Book Event – on May 10th our clerk Mae organized an event to showcase the many authors, perspectives, and philosophies of science fiction as a genre. It brought together both members of the public and students from the college for a rousing and informative discussion about the nature of sci fi and the variety of expressions that it encompasses. It was extremely popular, and doing similar talks on other genres and the creation of a science fiction book club are both in discussion.

Carpet Cleanings – May 17th in the library May 21st in the museum.

April 2025 Programming Stats

CHILDREN

Storytime Sessions: 7

Storytime Attendance

Kids 69 Adults 40

4/11 ABCD visit

Kids 8 Adults 2

3/14 Needle Felting

6 attendees

ADULT

Mah Jongg

3 sessions

9 attendees

4/4 Poetry Class

1 attendee

4/26 Book Club

8 attendees

Computer programs

Individual tutoring: 1 participant

Darwin R. Barker Library & Museum Association

Board of Trustees Meeting

May 21st, 2025

Archivist's Report

Collections

- 60 items were catalogued into Past Perfect and 62 were assigned home locations
- The Aldrich Family Collection has been processed, and the finding aid is now available online.
- Work on the Village Papers Collection is ongoing.

Exhibits

- With the closing of our Sports Exhibit, all loaned items have been scheduled to be returned.
- Belden exhibit updates are ongoing to include an improved Native American exhibit and the addition of a small Folk Art exhibit.

Outreach

- Lafayette Bicentennial promotional materials have been created. They have been added to the museum website, posted on social media, and mailed out to interested organizations.

Darwin R. Barker Library and Museum Association

Board Meeting

May 21, 2025

Curator's Report

Exhibits

- We Are the Champions exhibit has been removed, and items returned, in preparation for the new exhibit.
- Continuing preparation for Lafayette in Fredonia (May 31st-January 10, 2026) exhibition.

Outreach

- Krystyna Klos's internship program, "Blue Devils, Pink Rink," about the history of local hockey, including a display, a create-your-own hockey team, a scavenger hunt, and a guess the penalty challenge. Attendance: 7
- Jack Foreman's internship program, "Historical Fredonia Goes Digital," was completed with a digital recreation of the Fredonia that the Marquis de Lafayette would have encountered in 1825 on his tour across America. Building exteriors and interiors were modeled according to paintings, photographs, floor plans, and written record. The project overall contains six building lots, including the Darwin R. Barker Museum, Fredonia Academy, and Baptist Church. Each lot includes a brief historical background in its description. 32 downloads and a total of 39 interactions.
- Lafayette Bicentennial Jubilee:
 - Planning committee continues to meet twice monthly.
 - NCCF Community Grant has awarded \$2,260 for the Jubilee

Monthly Statistics

- Visitation in April: 24
- Cataloging update: 449 objects cataloged in PastPerfect in April.
- Volunteer hours in April: 100

Visitation

