

**Grand Valley Public Library Board**  
**Minutes: Wednesday January 14, 2026**

**Present:**

Julie Van Alstine, Vice-chair  
Amy Steele  
Mary Hatch  
Brennan Solecky  
James Jonker, Town of Grand Valley Rep.  
Lenora Banfield, Township of East Garafraxa Rep., Chair  
Susan Graham, Township of Amaranth Rep.  
Joanne Stevenson, CEO, secretary/treasurer

**Regrets:**

1. **Call to Order.** 5:30pm

2. **Land Acknowledgement Statement**

**We [I]** would like to acknowledge that we are on the the Haldimand Tract, land promised to the Haudenosaunee (**HOE day na shun ay**) people of Six Nations, which includes six miles on each side of the Grand River. This territory is the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabeg (**On ish KNOB eck**), and Haudenosaunee (**HOE day na shun ay**) Peoples.

3. **Approval of the agenda**

**MOTION #1:** Moved by J. Van Alstine, seconded by M. Hatch, that the agenda be approved.

4. **Declaration of any conflicts of interest.**

None.

5. **Minutes of the November 13, 2025 meeting.**

**MOTION #2:** Moved by M. Hatch, seconded by J. Van Alstine that the minutes of November 13, 2025 be approved.

6. **Business arising from the minutes.**

**6.1 Feasibility Study**

Seven proposals were submitted. Currently, the board has decided not to move forward with the Feasibility Study.

**6.2 Book Sale**

The library raised \$899.94. Direct sales \$816.30 by donation, ZoomBooks \$72.64

7. **Correspondence**

7.1 Donation, I. Birkholtz

- 7.2 Donation, D. Holmes
  - 7.3 Donation, K. Milburn in memory of Roy Naismith
  - 7.4 Donation, Ocean Capital Holding Limited for Giving Tuesday, Z. Parr nominated the library for this donation
  - 7.5 Donations in memory of Robin Berger
  - 7.6 Donation, Berger Family sponsoring the children's/teen's cooking classes for 2026.
  - 7.7 East Garafraxa, Grand Valley Public Library Board Participation
- MOTION #3:** Moved by B. Solecky, seconded by J. Van Alstine to receive the correspondence.

## 8. Financial Report

### Operating Account

- 8.1 Operating Expenses for November and December

**MOTION #4:** Moved by B. Solecky, seconded by M. Hatch to accept the reviewed expenses for November (\$32,377.24) and December (\$40,320.16).

- 8.2 4<sup>th</sup> quarter review for 2025

**MOTION #5:** Moved by A. Steele, seconded by B. Solecky to accept the reviewed 4<sup>th</sup> quarter expense report.

### Reserve Account

- 8.3 Reserve Account

**MOTION #6:** Moved by A. Steele, seconded by B. Solecky to accept the reviewed financial statement for the reserve account for 2025.

### Budget

- 8.4 Draft Budget for 2026

Draft Budget is tabled for further discussion.

### Audit 2024

**MOTION #7:** Moved by J. Jonker, seconded by J. Van Alstine to accept the reviewed audit reports for 2024.

## 9. Committee Reports

### 10. Chair Report

- 10.1 Pay Equity/Pay Scale

L. Banfield reported on her discussions with the Human Resource/Pay Equity Consultant. L. Banield will follow up with HR/Pay Equity consultant for a special meeting with the Library Board.

## 11. CEO Report

See attachment

## **12. New Business**

**12.1** Ontario Trillium Fund for the Library of Things has been approved.

**12.2** Occupational Health and Safety Policy

**12.3** Working Alone Policy

**12.4** Human Rights – Discrimination and Harassment Policy

**12.5** Prevention of Workplace Violence

**MOTION #8:** Moved by J. Jonker, seconded by J. Van Alstine to approve the reviewed policies.

**12.6** Library Board meeting schedule and events

Library Board schedule differed to February 11, 2026 board meeting

## **13. Next Meeting**

Wednesday February 11, 2026 5:30pm McGinnis Room

## **14. Motion to adjourn**

**MOTION #9:** Moved by J. Van Alstine to adjourn at 7:13pm. CARRIED

## CEO REPORT

Month: **December - January**  
 Year: **2025/2026**

<b>Advocacy &amp; Promotion</b>	Town of Grand Valley Open House (November 2026)									
<b>Programs/Outreach (group visits)</b>	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%; vertical-align: top;"> <b>Children's programs</b>            Let's cook            Tween Scene            Cocoa Club            Baby and Toddler Time            Story Time            Entrepreneur Club            New Years at Noon         </td> <td style="width: 30%; vertical-align: top;">           Stuffy Sleepover            Lego (cancelled due to weather)            Jewelry Making            Drop in Teen Pizza            Teen Christmas Reading Box         </td> <td style="width: 30%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <b>Family Programs</b>            Gingerbread Houses (sponsored by the Grand Valley Lions Club)            Collecting the Community (Museum of Dufferin)         </td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <b>Adult/Seniors Programs</b>            Coffee, Tea &amp; Connections            Knitter's nook            Reading Connections (Book Club)            Christmas Crafting Workshop         </td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<b>Children's programs</b> Let's cook Tween Scene Cocoa Club Baby and Toddler Time Story Time Entrepreneur Club New Years at Noon	Stuffy Sleepover Lego (cancelled due to weather) Jewelry Making Drop in Teen Pizza Teen Christmas Reading Box		<b>Family Programs</b> Gingerbread Houses (sponsored by the Grand Valley Lions Club) Collecting the Community (Museum of Dufferin)			<b>Adult/Seniors Programs</b> Coffee, Tea & Connections Knitter's nook Reading Connections (Book Club) Christmas Crafting Workshop		
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<b>Staffing</b>	1 staff hired in January, 1 contract staff will need to be hired in April to cover maternity leave.									
<b>Professional Development/Meetings</b>	CEO OMERS webinar - Employer Town Hall series, 2025 reconciliation webinars March Break, Coffee, Conversation and Books planning meeting Introduction to Emergency Management OLS Virtual Board Training recording - Conflicts of Interest , available on LearnHq.ca OLS Virtual Library Staff training - recommend watching the recording of the opening key note speaker Dr. Nicole Dalmer "Collaborative Futures: Libraries as Spaces for belonging and thriving Communities", available on LearnHq.ca									
<b>Facilities/Equipment</b>	Duct Cleaning January 11, 2026 Book dropbox - closed due to a water leak									
<b>Collections</b>	Inventory being conducted									
<b>Budget/Grants</b>	Canada Summer Jobs Grant 2026 application submitted Connectivity Fund Reimbursement Request Form 2025-2026 requested \$3,000 Zoom Books payment \$72.64 Robin Berger's Family sponsoring Cooking Classes for 2026									
<b>Community Partnerships/ Collaborations</b>	Museum of Dufferin GV Small Business Group Coats for Dufferin Neighbours Community Market									
<b>Community Support (meeting room)</b>	Garden Club									
	Rentals 2 Rentals									
<b>Other</b>	<a href="#">Article: The library is not a department: why public library boards matter</a> The library will no longer be a drop off centre for batteries. This would now become a pay-per-use program Updated patron database Audit received for 2024, books have been closed									