

# Library Trustee Meeting

Wednesday, January 14, 2026 @ 7:00 p.m.

at the Leverett Library

Attending: Lisa Werner, chairing the meeting, Trustees: Rachel Flint, Seth Seeger, Joan Godsey, Chris Condit, via Zoom, Judith Davidov. Hannah Paessel, Library Director, and Leslie Fisette, representing the Friends, and an interested town member, Chris Barber.

**Approval of December 10 meeting minutes:** Seth moved we accept the minutes, Rachel seconded, unanimous approval.

## Trustee Business:

2026 Trustee elections - Chris and Joan are up for reelection, each plan to run.

## Updates:

### Grounds Project

- Resolved all outstanding issues and we are ready to move forward.
- Working with Friends to finalize plaque fundraiser.

### FY27 budget

- Budget hearing was 1/13/26
  - Submitted Level funded budget and 2.5% budget.
- Personnel Committee meeting 1/13/26
  - Request +5 Library Assistant hours
- Town Meeting, where budgets are approved, is May 2<sup>nd</sup>. After a discussion Rachel made a motion that we retain the tradition of keeping the library closed during the meeting; Joan seconded it, unanimous approval.

## FRIENDS REPORT

- Leslie reported the Friends made \$1085 on the basket sales. Friends have been busy supporting an ailing Gerry McFarland. Leslie reports no projects except working on plaques for benches, the stage and other possible locations.

## Director's Reports:

Financials: **47%** through the year.

| Account          | Start Fiscal Year | Amount remaining | %   |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----|
| General Expenses | \$34,469          | \$17,491         | 49% |

|                          |          |          |     |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|-----|
| Wages                    | \$88,331 | \$40,656 | 54% |
| Building                 | \$24,466 | \$16,029 | 34% |
| State Aid                | n/a      | \$29,166 |     |
| Gift                     | n/a      | \$70,211 |     |
| Bequest Detail           | \$91,124 | \$66,890 |     |
| Revolving - Fines        | n/a      | \$741    |     |
| Revolving - Printing/Use | n/a      | \$645    |     |

#### Circulation Statistics

| December 2024 | Service | December 2025 |
|---------------|---------|---------------|
| 1,782         | CWMARS  | 2,030         |
| 887           | Libby   | 928           |
| 91            | Kanopy  | 173           |

#### Attendance Statistics

| December 2024 | Attendance type      | December 2025 |
|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 767           | General Library      | 872           |
| 215           | Library Programs     | 259           |
| 8             | Non-library programs | 16            |

We were pleased to note that the ~14% increase in monthly attendance occurred despite the library being closed for weather one day, and two holidays that fell on days we were normally open. We attribute this to our very popular innovation of having open hours on Friday.

#### Staff & Volunteers:

- Peggy will be out as she heals from a fall.
- Sarah is back and feeling good!

- With our recent reduced staffing, we are focusing on the basics of service and library work. No special projects right now and great appreciation for our volunteers.

#### Meetings & Programs:

- Though we were closed two Thursdays for holidays and one snow day, we still had many wonderful and well-attended programs.
- Notable: Danse Cafe & Winter Lights magic shows each had 20-30 attendees.
- Exhibit: Dave Pueschel photographs for January and February.
- Nonlibrary events include: Nancy Emond's watercolor class and the Rural School Bill Legislation event sponsored by the Democratic Town Committee
- Coming up next: Entrepreneur classes, Tree Pruning, and Insect Zoo.

#### Building:

- Recent electric bill was high (December was a very cold month). Will, Hannah, Seth and Chris will meet to discuss what we can do to minimize the use of electricity.
- Will and Hannah have been discussing whether to adjust set backs with increased open hours.

#### Technology:

- None.

#### Other:

- Annual report is due March 20th.

#### Old Business

- None.

At 7:50 PM Seth moved we adjourn, Lisa seconded it, and it had unanimous approval, ending a record short meeting!