Library Trustee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 14, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

at the Leverett Library

Present: Hannah Paessel, Chris Condit, Rachel Flint, Seth Seeger (note taker), Joan Godsey, Richard Godsey (Friend)

Approval of September 9 meeting minutes

Minor correction made. Joan motioned to accept, Chris seocnded. Passed unanimously.

Trustee Business:

Proposed Grand Opening for Park

- Saturday, June 12 (rain date June 26)
- doubles as a SRP Kickoff event
- 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
  - speeches and ribbon cutting
  - 2-3 song Leverett Community Chorus performance
  - activities (DIY scavenger hunt, guided wetland walk)
  - 12-2 outside fun time (ex. henna, balloon twisting, band for background music, ice cream truck)
    - Requested an MCC grant for the balloon person
    - Richard is investigating the ice cream truck
  - attendees invited to bring their own picnic lunch
  - Possible music in the background?
  - Friends will be involved as much as possible

Proposed 2027 Music in the Park approach

- Every other week on Thursdays (6/17, 7/1, 7/15, 7/29, 8/12)
- 5-7 pm
- 2 bands per date
- Rain date on the opposite weeks
- All concerts are outdoors and picnicable
- Applications open in Jan/Feb for bands to apply
- Still like to offer honorarium
- Attendance slowed in 2026. Reimaging it for 2027 with the new stage.
- Still working out how to match bands and make sure the transition goes smoothly
- The library is in the process of purchasing a sound system

Updates:

Verizon discontinuance of copper lines

Margie is figuring out if we need this for the alarm

Grounds Project:

- Omasta still needs to replace one tree and is keeping an eye on two bushes. Otherwise, done.
  - One dogwood died and is going to be replaced
  - Omasta is on the hook for warranty work for a year (including plantings)
- A fox is marking its territory on the new sidewalk
- There is a plan for cleaning out the invasives
- Plaques are in, and they look great
- Larochelle (stage contractor)
  - started installing 10/7

Insulation Replacement

- Closed two days for this project. Today and next Tuesday.
- Yesterday, insulation was removed. Now there is another company inspecting for and mitigating for mold. New insulation will be installed next week.

LifePath Grant for Chat Bench

- Now due in December. No problem.

Art Silent Auction

- Tentatively scheduled for exhibit in May/June 2027.
- Mary Alice Wilson's art collection.
- Will benefit the Friends and RSGT

FRIENDS UPDATE

- Many museum passes have been renewed. Magic Wings is under new management and is charging a lot more - Hannah is researching other options.
- Annual meeting: Nov 7th, 2026 1pm - 3pm. Music of Fats Waller
- Considering an accessible picnic table in honor of Cheryl Howland

Director's Reports:

Financials: **24%** through the year.

Account	**Start Fiscal Year**	**Amount Remaining**	**%**
General Expenses	$36,051	$24,021	33%
Wages	$91,157	$66,555	27%

Building	$25,078	$22,580	10%
State Aid	$28,895	$28,895	
Gift	$69,395	$67,371	
Bequest Detail	$60,900	$58,600	
Revolving - Fines	$608	$490	
Revolving – Printing/Use	$337	$202	
Community Preservation Grant	$374,529	$2,413	

Circulation Statistics

September 2025	Service	September 2026
2,846	CWMARS	2,913
911	Libby	814
151	Kanopy	295

Attendance Statistics

September 2025	Attendance type	September 2026
1150	General Library	1236
337	Library Programs	459
39	Non-library programs	20

Staff & Volunteers:

- Planning ahead for Peggy and Ralph to switch every six months who works Fridays and Wednesdays.
- We have a nice crew of volunteers who are doing critical work for us every day.

Meetings & Programs:

- The Reptile Petting Zoo was a hit! About 250 people of all ages stopped in to learn about and interact with some very special animals. Thanks to the Friends for supporting this program.
- Also the Scam Prevention Program we cosponsored with the COA was well attended and appreciated.
- LEGO got a big swell of participants as the school year started with over 70 people attending during the month of September.
- Exhibit: Ezra Wilde is displaying their art in the community room through the end of October. Next up: Diane Shanti Kennedy paintings and mixed media.
- Coming up: Klezmer Performance, Kids Open Mic, Managing Forest Fire Risk, and a Halloween Photo Booth.

Building:

- Insulation improvement and replacement nearly complete.

Technology:

- New wifi now has a password on it.
- The Digital Equity grant has purchased several accessibility tools for the library to offer in-house and to lend out. These are primarily various types of magnifiers, a charging stand, a translation pen, and large mouse and keyboard. We are so thankful.

Other:

- Discussed the annual board's thank you to the staff and volunteers. Joan will lead.
- Hannah got in touch with the student who did the original design of the park. She will come to the opening if she can.

Old Business

Next Meeting: November 11 at 7:00 p.m.

Joan moved to adjourn, Rachel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

Submitted by Seth Seeger