

Trustee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

at the Leverett Library

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

Approval of January 14 meeting minutes. Joan moved to accept, Judith seconded. Unanimously approved.

Trustee Business:

Annual Report draft - Report looks great! Very impressive. General discussion and feedback.

Bid Process - Stage

- estimate on new structure still high
- confirming with architects on cost saving opportunities
- spoke with town administrator on most efficient bid process.
- Process is coming along. Considering splitting up the overall bid into 3 sections. Discussed pros, cons, risks of splitting it up.
- Ideas...
 - Can we offer the builder more cash up front to help pay for materials?
 - Could Will or someone else be a semi project manager if more \$ was available?
 - Is Franklin Tech an option?
 - Can we get extra cash from somewhere else? State aid, donations?
- May need to call an extra trustee meeting

Updates:

Grounds Project

- Nothing new to report

FY27 budget

- Personnel Committee recommended the +5 hour request to the Finance and Select Board committees.
 - Discussed pros and cons of paying for another year

- The Town-wide budget hearing is April 7

FRIENDS REPORT

- Busy selling benches! 3.3 of the 5 benches have been sold.
- There will be other options for smaller donations

Director's Reports:

Financials: 55% through the year.

Account	Start Fiscal Year	Amount remaining	%
General Expenses	\$34,469	\$14,470	58%
Wages	\$88,331	\$33,899	62%
Building	\$24,466	\$12,878	47%
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

January 2025	Service	January 2026
2,894	CWMARS	3,093
910	Libby	968
160	Kanopy	153

Attendance Statistics

January 2025	Attendance type	January 2026
1008	General Library	1100

319	Library Programs	393
45	Non-library programs	8

Staff & Volunteers:

- We were closed 3 days this month, 1 holiday and 2 snow days.
 - Numbers are up because of the extra days open, even with the snow days.
- Our volunteers complete critical work to keep the library functioning.
- We are again fully staffed and monthly meetings continue to be helpful.
- We hope to reintroduce our annual safety trainings once the new Fire Chief is ready.

Meetings & Programs:

- LEGO Builders and CNC Playgroup continue to be our most popular programs.
- Notable: The Umass Insect Zoo attracted 109 all-age visitors!
- Exhibit: Dave Pueschel photographs for January and February.
- Nonlibrary event: a local LES student ran their own Sports Card trading club
- Coming up next: Rescheduled Tree Pruning, Palestinian poetry, drawing with Mary Schreiber, and a Lunar New Year seek and find.
- All of our LCC grant requests were funded: 4-part drawing class, Ukranian Egg decorating, Community mini art show, Burikes Klezmer Concert, Kathak Dance Performance, and Memento Morrie author talk.

Building:

- Outside units filled with snow, 2 fans weren't moving.
- Will and Matt warmed them with a heater.
- Rock Valley checked on units and got them running again.
- There are a few options to prevent this in the future.
- Jesse from Rock Valley recommended keeping the set backs as currently scheduled even with new open schedule.
- Recent electric bill was also high.

- Thanks to Chris and Seth for offering to discuss the set back options, but with the unit issues, we thought best to wait for more information.

Technology:

Other:

Old Business

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

Seth moved to adjourn, Joan seconded. All approved.