

Approved 12/16/2025

**Barrington Public Library  
Board of Library Trustees Meeting Minutes  
November 18th 2025**

**Present:** Trustees: Chair Susan Gaudiello, Vice Chair Lydia Cupp, Secretary Ezra Hodgson, Karolina Bodner, Diane Madariaga, Library Director Lydia Goodwin, and Alternates Karen Towne and Robert Drew.

**Absent:** Treasurer Melanie Haley, Richard Compagnone, and Alternate Debbie Daley

This meeting was called to order at 5:31pm. Susan informed the board that alternates Karen and Robert would be voting in place of Melanie and Richard.

**Public Hearing:** Susan opened the public hearing on the acceptance of a donation of \$10,293.19 from the Barrington Library Foundation for the purchase of new furniture. There was no public comment on the donation. Susan closed the hearing. Karolina made a motion to approve the donation from the BLF, seconded by Robert. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Robert made a motion to approve minutes from the meeting on October 21st, seconded by Lydia. The motion passed.

**Donations:** November donations totaled \$229.79. Karen made a motion to approve donations from November, seconded by Ezra. The motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Total interest received from First Seacoast Bank and TD Bank accounts/CDs was \$162.11 during November.

**Select-board Liaison:** Dannen Mannschreck was not present.

**Director's Report:** Lydia presented updated circulation policies and procedures. The change was to increase the card replacement fee to cover actual costs. Karolina made a motion to approve the updates, seconded by Diane. The motion passed.

The library welcomed 58 new patrons in the month of October, which brings the total patron count to 4,919. Digital services have continued to do well, adding 17 new users to Libby with 1,558 borrows and 6 new Hoopla users with 218 borrows, signaling the correct move was made to discontinue Hoopla.

All 3 bathrooms were out of service on Friday, Nov.14th, due to a sewer backup. The 2000-gallon septic tank was full, even though it was pumped right before the new library opened. The incident indicates a need for more frequent pumping, which was not included in the proposed 2026 budget.

**Library Building Project Update:** Jack Bingham, the owner of Barrington Power, was present and explained the solar did not operate correctly in September into October. The issue surrounded the use of some incorrect connector cables with some of the panels. At this stage, his team has replaced the

“problem cables” and the panels are projected to work as they should moving forward. Jack advised that we will have the best sense for how well the solar panels are working after compiling a year’s worth of data. He did advise that someone check to ensure the panels are reporting every day. This is as simple as checking the computer display that is fed into the front desk monitors. Jack also monitors the daily production remotely.

Susan reported that it was discovered that two solar bills were paid from the bond but should have been billed to the donated funds ear-marked for solar. With that reconciliation there is currently an estimated budget surplus of \$64,390 from the building project budget including the balance of the Library Capital Reserve.

Susan met with Conner and they discussed the solar and other energy-related rebates received and due. Conner and the ABC agreed that any rebates related to solar should come to the library due to those being installed with private funds. The \$10,000 solar rebate from the state will be applied towards utility costs for the building in 2026.

The ABC reviewed and the Select Board approved the recommendation to ask voters to close the Library (Construction) Capital Reserve (balance of \$28,000) and add \$15,000 of those funds to the Library Tech Capital Reserve, with the balance to go to the Fund Surplus. The remaining surplus in the Library Bond will be used as a contingency fund for the recreation building renovation. The Town will apply for the 30% Federal rebate for the solar installation in 2026, and if received, the rebate of about \$42,000 will be applied to the Library budget.

A snowblower will be purchased out of the bond funds. Robert made a motion to approve spending \$1,549 on a new snowblower for the new library, seconded by Lydia. The motion passed.

**Foundation Report:** Roger Gingrich advised of the outstanding donation to be received from First Seacoast Bank and the Foundation’s application to receive another donation from the Revo Casino in 2026.

**Landscape Committee:** The Landscape Committee is coming up with a proposal for fencing along Route 125 as a safety measure for children. There are several grants/programs and contacts at local supply companies being researched to keep cost low and to find possible donations. The committee is planning to create a sensory garden in 2026 on the library grounds. Lydia attended a workshop focusing on grant application writing, to assist in raising the funds for the garden installation. Lydia discussed a potential free seed library being housed in the new library space. There will be continued discussion around refining that idea.

**Friends Report:** Lydia advised that the fall raffle made \$600 at the craft fair and tickets are on sale until December 2<sup>nd</sup> at the library.

**Adjourn:** Robert made a motion to adjourn at 7:08 pm, seconded by Lydia. The motion passed.

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Next Regularly Planned Library Trustees Meeting is December 16th.

Minutes recorded by Secretary, Ezra Hodgson