

Barrington Public Library Trustees Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2025

BPL Program Room

1. Meeting started at 5:30 with a welcome from Susan Gaudiello.
2. Public Comment-none
3. Minutes from September 16, 2025 were approved with Karoline Bodner making the motion and Melanie Haley seconding. Approval was unanimous.
4. Accept Donations:
 - a. Cash donation of \$88.88 was approved with Richard Compagnone making the motion and Lydia Cupp seconding. Approval was unanimous.
 - b. BPL Foundation Donation: Susan Gaudiello attended the Foundation's meeting last Tuesday and asked the Foundation to donate funds for new library furniture at a cost of about \$10,200. They agreed. The size of the donation requires a notice be posted in the newspaper for seven business days prior to the vote to accept, so this will be on the November Trustees meeting agenda.
5. Treasurer's Report – Melanie Haley submitted a report (attached) and noted that we received \$48.75 in interest in September. She renewed a CD that was set to expire and would like the Trustees to consider how to invest funds at an upcoming meeting.
6. Select Board Liaison – Dannen Mannschreck was absent.
7. Director's Report –
 - a. Lydia Goodwin reported that new hire Isabella is doing great. The library is still getting many new patrons.
 - b. Lydia requested approval for the 2026 holiday schedule. The motion to approve the schedule as presented was made by Melanie Haley and seconded by Lydia Cupp. The motion was unanimously approved. Lydia Goodwin submitted an attached report and noted that she shared Town policy on holiday pay with library employees which differs from the library policy in effect prior to approval of the MOU with the town.
 - c. Budget Update: The Library budget will be reviewed at the Nov. 12 meeting of the ABC. Susan and Lydia G will discuss the budget at that meeting and respond to committee questions. Trustees are encouraged to attend as well. The meeting convenes at Town Hall at 3:30 pm.
8. Building Project – Susan Gaudiello
 - a. Signage: The letters for gable signage were ordered at a cost of about \$5000 and will be ready to install early November. Installation of a light above the letters will cost about \$900. This signage is about half the cost of a ground-mounted sign.
 - b. Budget Update: The final billing from Bauen is expected by early November. Susan met with Town Finance Director Amy Doherty to reconcile the expense

tracking and it appears we are very near the end of the bond funds. The Select Board will be asked to release the remaining Library Capital Reserve funds, about \$28,000, at their November 17 meeting. The town received a \$7,400 incentive for energy efficiency in the renovation of the new library building. There should be a \$10,000 rebate coming from the state in the next six months. In 2026 the Town will also apply for the 30% Federal rebate which would be about \$40,000. All of these funds would be put into the general fund and it is up to the Select Board to decide how the funds will be used. The Trustees discussed asking the Select Board to designate the funds for the Library's use, in particular to fund the 5-year technology plan. Other suggestions for the use of the funds were proposed including solar upkeep, generator service and possible replacement when needed, and utilities.

9. Foundation Report – As noted above, the main topic related to the Foundation was their donation for furniture.
10. Friends Report – Lydia Cupp discussed the Friends' grounds clean-up day where 150 daffodils were planted around the sign and statue of the boy and girl. Allison McGill of the Bedrock Gardens' education program donated two dozen native plants that were planted as well. Lydia sought permission to apply for a Master Gardener's grant of \$300 for a sensory children's garden. She noted that Hyder Hospice House has offered to donate a water feature. The idea was tabled until November when a plan for a children's area could be more developed. Lydia Cupp noted that the Friends are having trouble filling leadership roles. The friends will have a raffle at the November 8th craft fair. The Friends approved their budget and plan to donate about \$5000 to the Library in the coming year. The Friends plan to support all print magazines for the library. The library plans to purchase a subscription to Seacoast Online to be available on a tablet for patrons to read in the library, and will cancel the subscription to the Concord Monitor.
11. Old Business
 - a. NHLTA Trustee Roundtable – October 25. Trustees attendees are asked to arrive at 10:00 for the event that lasts from 10:30-12:30. There are 45 registered. Topics of interest to be discussed include policies, Friends, and personnel. Set-up will be 4:30 on Friday afternoon. Barrington Trustees will bring refreshments.
12. New Business: Susan Gaudiello suggested that the Trustees should draft rules of procedure for public comment and review all library policies. A committee of Richard Compagnone, Lydia Cupp, Debbie Dadey and Diane Madriaga was established to work with Lydia Goodwin on this over the coming year.
13. The meeting was adjourned at 6:46. Lydia Cupp made the motion and Melanie Haley seconded the motion. All were in favor.

APPROVED 11/18/2025

Minutes respectfully submitted by Debbie Dadey on October 23, 2025 as Secretary Ezra Hodgson was absent from the October 21st meeting.