

**Barrington Public Library
Board of Library Trustees Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2025**

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

This meeting was called to order at 5:30pm.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Karolina made a motion to approve minutes from the Meeting on July 15th, seconded by Lydia. The motion passed.

Donations: August donations totaled \$5,169.50. \$5,000 from the Barrington Historical Society, \$69.50 from the cash jar, and \$100 donation in memory of Susan Milioto. Richard made a motion to approve donations from July, seconded by Melanie. The motion passed.

The Donation Committee recommended the acceptance of a bench from Marilyn Lemos, a painting from Ken Fortin, and a stained glass from John Cafasso. Melanie made a motion to accept the donations, seconded by Lydia. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Melanie reported that \$47.88 in interest has accrued over the past month, the 6-month CD is coming up for re-investment September 24th at First Seacoast Bank. Also there is currently about \$9,000 in the tech capital reserve.

Melanie had communications about the AC Wood Trust with members of the Trustees of the Trust Fund and the DOJ. The Library trustees have been interested in obtaining the entire balance in the fund since it doesn't generate much interest. The principle is \$1000 and has grown to about \$1300 since the Library has not been taking the interest annually. Melanie learned that the Library Trustees cannot have the fund transferred to the Library to manage or expend without a court order. The feedback she received was that an attorney would be needed to obtain court approval, and those fees would likely cost more than what is currently in the account.

Richard made a motion to have the Trustees of the Trust Fund transfer any funds in excess of \$1,000 to the Library Trustees each year in quarter four, seconded by Karolina. The motion passed.

Select-board Liaison: Not present

Director's Report: Lydia reported that we have started counting renewals in the library's circulation numbers as required by the State Library, which explains the significant jump in those numbers year over year.

The library is experiencing foot traffic of around 200 people every day, which is roughly double what was being tracked in the previous space. There have been 172 new library cards issued since the opening of the new location as of August 18th.

Lydia is currently waiting on the town wage study before making recommendations on staffing salary decisions.

Lydia G recommended adding a third part-time library assistant, with funds available due to the resignation of the ILL library assistant in June. Lydia Cupp made a motion to hire a part-time library assistant to work 15 hours a week at \$15 an hour. This would be a Grade 2, Step 4 position. Seconded by Karolina. The motion passed.

Budget Report:

Lydia G reviewed the draft budget for 2026. Highlighting new expenses related to the move to a new facility (dumpster fee, utilities, phone, internet), increases in some lines and some reductions due to new contracts or lower utilization.

Lydia did recommend discontinuing Hoopla at the end of 2025 and allocating all digital media cost to Libby (NH Overdrive). She will provide a public statement in the September Newsletter about why the change is being made.

The town portion of the operating budget will increase from \$87,289 to \$95,264, a 9% increase. That increase includes items like phones/internet/heat/electricity, which have historically been allocated in the Town's general building and maintenance budget.

The total budget in 2025 was \$459,919, with 2026 increasing to \$501,804. A 9.11% increase. This number will likely change once the Select Board finalizes the wage scale and benefits.

Karolina made a motion to approve the 2026 budget, seconded by Diane. The motion passed.

Policies:

Lydia G incorporated changes to policies made by the Town attorney. Melanie made a motion to approve the revised Library Arts Display and Meeting Room policies, seconded by Diane. The motion passed.

Library Building Project Update:

Susan advised that there is about \$80,000 left in the bond fund as of August 1. There are still some outstanding costs or invoices not yet received.

The remaining furniture has an updated delivery/install timeline being of early September.

Irrigation was installed in the gardens lining the front walkway to the library. Lydia's Cupp's next big project will be planting around the signage on Route 125, planned for mid September. She is continuing to research how to best arrange the gardens on the rear of the building.

Friends Report: Lydia advised the Friends are selling mums and passed out mum sale sheets.

Final Comments: Susan advised we will be hosting the NHLTA Trustee Roundtable on October 25th from 10:30-12:30. Need to make arrangements for refreshments for what could be 30+ attendees.

Adjourn: Lydia made a motion to adjourn at 7:20pm, seconded by Karolina. Motion passed.

Next Library Trustees Meeting is September 16th.

Minutes recorded by Secretary, Ezra Hodgson.