

Draft Minutes, June 16, 2025

Library Trustees Meeting, June 2025, Mascoma Senior Center

Present: Trustees: Nick Lavalley (2026), Derek Hero (2027), Nan Stone (2028)

Alternate: Joanna Carr

Librarian: Amy Thurber

Select Board Representative: Sadie Wells

Friends of the Library Representative: Cindy Neily

Absent: Trustees: Cheryl Junker (2026), Angie Robinson (2027)

Nick called the meeting to order at 5:45 and appointed Joanna Carr to represent Angie Robinson

April Minutes:

Nan moved and Derek seconded a motion to approve the April minutes. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The May meeting was cancelled for lack of a quorum.

Treasurer's Report:

Expenditures for the Period (April through June) and Year to date are appropriately aligned with the calendar with the following exceptions: Internet, software and hardware support accounts are over budget due to the installation of required, essential equipment. Funds budgeted for magazine subscriptions and video games have now been fully expended. No further purchases are planned. Trustees expenses reflect a quarterly payment to the Town for our use of Town services.

Derek moved and Joanna seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. The motion carried unanimously.

Librarian's Report:

May Circulation Figures:

Library materials - 1556, a very good number

Libby (audio, ebooks, and magazines) - 784 high

Kanopy (films) - 65, a little low

Programs:

The Spring Book Sale was postponed until Old Home Day because of rain. There will be a "guess how many marbles are in the jar" contest with gift certificates from Chappy's and Canaan Village Pizza as prizes. The Friends will also be giving out friendship bracelets, which are extremely popular these days!

The annual Meetinghouse Readings will take place on July 10, 17, and 24. Refreshments will be provided by the Friends (7/10), the Bird and Garden Club (7/17) and the Trustees and

Staff (7/24). Baked goods can be brought to the Library before 5PM the day of the reading, or at the Meeting House between 6:15 and 6:45. Our friends from Norwich Books will once again have copies of the readers' books for sale.

Summer reading programs for all kick off on June 28th. The theme this year is "Level Up," a reference to video games we hope will attract the games players in our community. In addition to scheduled events and activities for children — dates and events are posted and available from the Library - there are reading bingo programs for both children and adults.

Collection:

Staff is working on a project to clean up the patron records on Follett, our software system. Those who are known to have moved from the area will be removed. Current patron records will be updated to support smoother report building.

Internet:

Twin Bridges Services has installed the Library's sonic wall. The next project will attack our wish list, including enabling both printers to work on all staff computers, installing Adobe on all staff machines, and getting the scanner to work after removing obsolete security settings.

Website Research:

Amy proposes to update the Library's Wordpress site using a modern template. A volunteer has done a deadline search of the current site, which provides a good starting point. Duplicate links will be removed and the need to scroll through posts on the home page will be eliminated.

IMLS and State Legislative Update:

IMLS funding for FY 2025/26 will be distributed.

Several bills that could affect libraries, including HB 273, HB 143, and HB 376, have gone or will likely be going to Committees of Conference.

Donations:

Town of Orange \$4000.00

Robert Terhune \$500.00

Gifts in Memory of Bruce Shinn:

 Rick and Nancy Evans \$100.00

 Dave and Marilyn Johnson \$30.00

Hanover Bird and Garden Club

On behalf of our members who reside in your town, \$50.00 to purchase "horticulture, floriculture, gardening, or ecology-related books for adults and children, media, seeds, or tools to align with the needs and interests of your library patrons."

Derek moved and Nan Seconded a motion to accept all donations.

Other Updates:

Amy reported that the American Heart Association is offering libraries the opportunity to participate in Libraries with Heart, a program that provides libraries with blood pressure cuffs that can be checked out and possibly a clinician who could visit.

CTL is one of four UV libraries participating in a grant-funded research project led by researchers from Dartmouth College. The project is studying how to provide access to information and resources about long Covid to rural communities. The library team, which includes Norwich Public Library, Chelsea Library, and one other NH library yet to be named, will help create the materials that might be provided. The library will be receiving a stipend for our time.

Committees:

No current updates

Friends of the Library:

Students from CES participated actively in cleaning up the Library's grounds on May 21st, the Town's annual Clean-Up Day. Mike Daniels purchased and set up our herb planter. It's fair to say the Friends had as much fun as the children!

Roy Weaver will be watering the Library's plants throughout the season, and the Town will be watering the lawn.

Jane Austen's 250th Birthday Tea, organized by Suanne Milligan and Jan Kulig, was a grand event. The 17 attendees were a diverse mix of familiar faces and first-timers as well as devoted Austen readers and newcomers who might have seen one of the many movies based on her novels. Susanne Milligan spoke about Austen's early life in a lovely manner that invited questions and comments. Overall the result was just what we were hoping for: bringing people into the Library together for a literary event.

Selectboard Update:

The Town is changing medical insurance providers.

The Trustees have been asked to provide a refundable deposit of \$200 against damage to the Meeting House. Sadie will look into this on behalf of the Library as well as other authorized Town Committees.

Other Business:

Thomas Oppel, State Representative for Grafton, District 9, requested permission to hold a monthly evening office hour at the Library. The office hours would be non-partisan, non-political, and open to every resident of the District. Attendees could express concerns, propose policy ideas, and/or talk about matters they might have with the State. The pros and cons of the idea were discussed at length. After careful deliberation the Trustees voted to move ahead with the idea on a trial basis. The vote was 3 in favor, 1 abstention.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn passed unanimously. Nick adjourned the meeting at 7:35.33

