

Canaan Library Trustees Meeting

February 16, 2026

Draft Minutes

Call to Order: Nick called the meeting to order at 5:47 at the Emergency Operations Center

Attendance:

Members present: Derek Herro, Cheryl Junker, Nick Lavalley, Nan Stone, Joanna Carr;
Librarian: Amy Thurber; Friends of the Canaan Town Library Representative: Mike Daniels;
Absent: Sadie Wells (Select Board Representative); Guests: Nan Munsey

Minutes Review:

Cheryl moved and Joanna seconded a motion to accept the December minutes as presented. The motion passed with one abstention for absence (Nan)

The January meeting was cancelled because of snow and could not be rescheduled.

Treasurer's Report for December/January:

Cheryl reported that the check from the Brundage Foundation has been received. The Town's Financial Administrator knows that the Library's CD was divided into two accounts: one CD that matures in September, and one that matures on April 25, 2026. Financial accounts are as expected, including a higher-than-usual charge for book purchases due to delayed deliveries.

Nan moved and Derek seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as present. The motion passed unanimously.

Librarian's Report for December/January:

Circulation Numbers

December 2025

Library Materials 1292

Libby 717

Kanopy 97

January 2026

Library Materials 1425

Libby 789

Kanopy 71

Collections:

Weeding the fiction collection (novels and mysteries) continue will begin soon and continue for some time.

Programs:

Culturally Curious Virtual Art Programs are scheduled for January (American Art at 250), February (Famous Couples), and March (Florals). These programs are co-hosted with Lyme and Etna. The January program had 44 attendees; the February program had 21.

Ken Lary and Amy hosted Pub Trivia at 6:30 every Tuesday night during February, with attendance ranging from 5 to 10.

Christmas in Canaan, on December 13 from 4-7pm, was a great success. Thanks to the FOCL we gave out 277 books.

FOCL Valentine making program, February 7, 10am-12pm had six attendees.

Japanese Calligraphy Class with Ginger Armstrong, February 21, 10am-12pm. Ginger's art has been on display in the Library for the past several months.

Building:

DMS has been hired to complete the lighting project. Their bid was the lower of the two. The schedule is being finalized, and it looks as though we are about three weeks out. Every bulb in the hanging lights is being replaced, and the remaining working bulbs will be used in the wall sconces. The cost of the work will be \$1,400.

Storywalk:

The Storywalk is now installed and accessible in the Town Forest. Thanks to the Conservation Commission and the Friends for partnering with us on this project. Amy is meeting with a member of the Conservation Commission to create a press release. There will be a grand opening event on March 14, 2026.

Deliberative Session:

Amy attended the Deliberative Session and there were no questions about the library's funding or services.

Federal Budget:

H.R. 7148, which includes an appropriation of \$291,800,000 for "carrying out the Museum and Library Services Act of 1996" was approved by President Trump on February 3, 2026. The Grants to States program for fiscal year 2026 is funded at \$181.4 million, a slight increase from last year. In New Hampshire, assuming conditions are similar to previous years,

NHSL's federally funded programs (e-services, Talking Books and Library vans) will be supported through September 2027.

State Legislation:

House Bill 1214, AN ACT relative to public libraries has been submitted to the Municipal and County Government Committee. The Act would amend RSA 202-A:2 to allow a municipality's governing body to assume governance of a public library, with its trustees serving in an advisory role.

Donations:

In addition to the Brundage Foundation grant noted in the Treasurer's report, donations were gratefully received from the Town of Dorchester, Kathleen Thompson, and Chris and Ann Wadsworth.

Cheryl moved and Nick seconded a motion to accept these donations. The motion passed unanimously. Joanna then moved and Cheryl seconded a motion to accept the Librarian's report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Friends of the Library Update:

Donations are running ahead of the past three years and contributions are still being recorded. Separately the Lions Club has made a generous donation to the Library.

The Friends will be assisting the Conservation Commission at the opening celebration of the Storywalk on March 14th.

In honor of Patriots' Day, April 18th, there will be a reading of "Paul Revere's Ride" at 10am in the library. Each verse will be read by a different person, and while some readers will be "on tap" beforehand, there will also be an opportunity to volunteer on the day.

Business Updates:

We will be redoing committee assignments and electing officers at the March meeting. In preparation, please think about how you might best contribute.

The Meeting House Readings Board has requested use of the Meeting House for all four Thursday evenings in July. We are likely to need only three, however, as there is usually no reading the week of the 4th.

Other Business:

Joanna proposed discussing an alternate meeting day. We'll do so at the March meeting.

Joanna and Nick will be running for three-year terms at the Town Meeting March 10, 2026. Cheryl will run for a one-year term.

Adjournment:

There being no other business, Nan moved and Joanna seconded a move to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Nick adjourned the meeting at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nan Stone, secretary